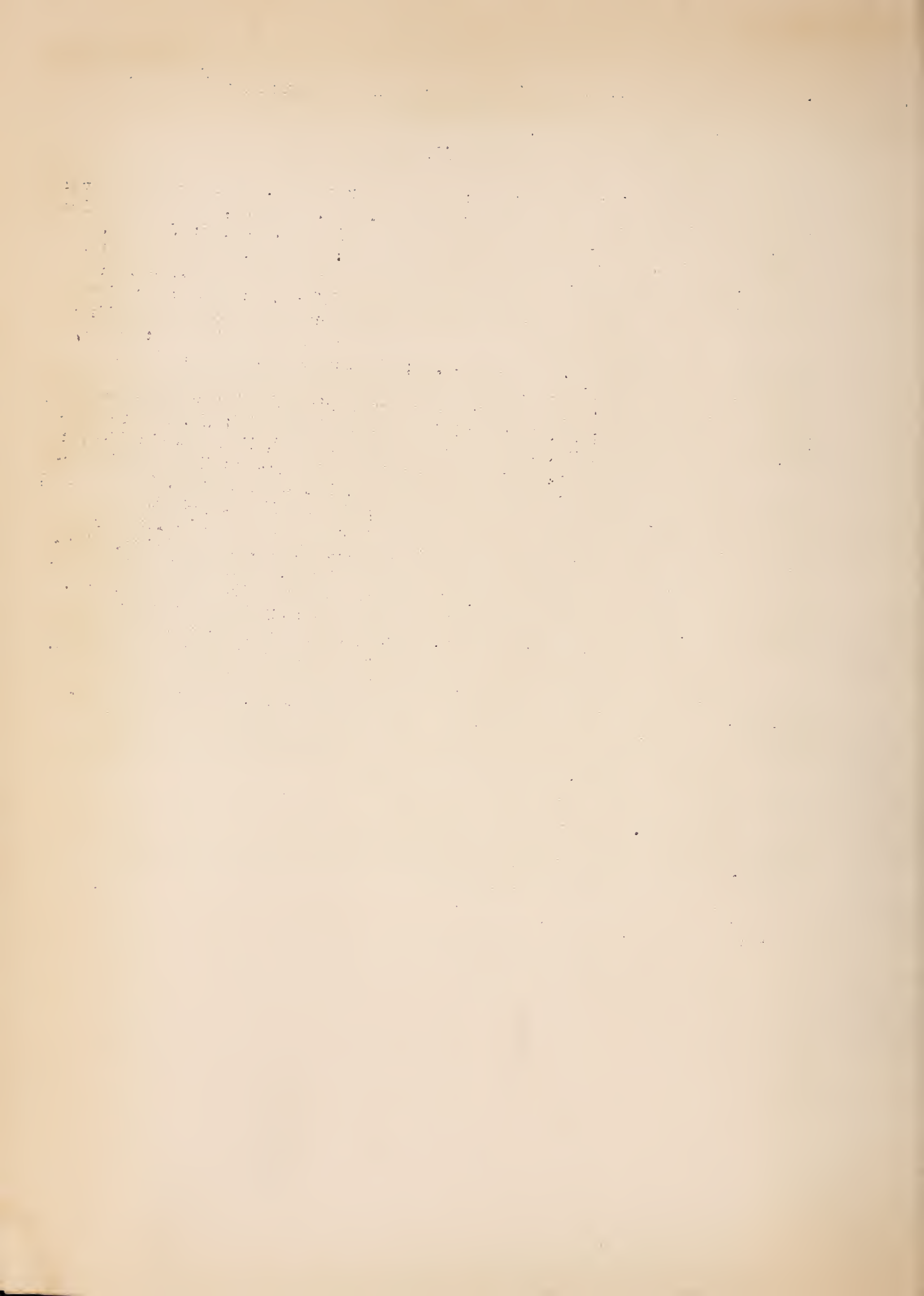


## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



# DAILY DIGEST

---

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

---

VOL. XLI, No. 61

Section 1

June 11, 1931

## WILBUR ON EDUCATION

Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, Secretary of the Interior, delivering the ninety-ninth commencement address at New York University yesterday, saw the present educational scheme "riddled with tradition, custom, and habit, and behind the general advance made by our whole people." He pleaded for a modernized system of education to fit "the civilization built for us by applied science and invention." He said, further: "Our philosophy of education compels us to prepare for a life ahead. We have not yet turned our education into the civilization built for us by applied science and invention. We have yet to devise plans for giving each student that opportunity for training most likely to fit him with his particular capacities; to be a constructive unit in our vast structure. ....There will be more service required for our central government as our Nation grows and understands the need of bringing many forces into play, aside from those of the schoolroom, in the development of our youth....."(N.Y. Times, June 11.)

## DENMAN ON LIVESTOCK MARKETING

A Manhattan, Kans., dispatch to the press to-day states that C. B. Denman, member of the Federal Farm Board, urged livestock men to adjust their operations to consumers' demands in an address before the American Institute of Cooperation at Manhattan yesterday. "New producers," Mr. Denman said, "are constantly coming into the field as a result of temporary prosperity and are eliminated when production is unprofitable. The resulting wide variations in supplies make for inefficient distribution." Regulation of importation and breeding were advocated. He pointed out that "the low level of cattle prices prevailing during the current year has caused a marked decline in the importations of cattle, particularly from Mexico." Hog raisers were urged to follow the lead of cattle men and sheep men in marketing their stock at lighter weights.

## PULP AND PAPER DUTIES

Increased tariff duties on imports of foreign pulp and paper products to prevent their dumping into the United States and additional restrictive legislation to exclude imports of such commodities produced by forced labor, were urged at Washington yesterday by O.M. Anderson, president of the Puget Sound Pulp and Timber Company at the opening session of the National Timber Conservation Board at which Secretary of Commerce Lamont presided. (Press, June 11.)

## DEBT CONFERENCE DECISIONS

A London dispatch to-day says: "Prime Minister MacDonald emphatically informed the House of Commons yesterday that he opposed the calling of an international conference on war debts now, which had been suggested during the visit of Chancellor Bruening and Foreign Minister Curtius. Mr. MacDonald also said he opposed even Parliamentary discussion of the war debts issue at present.....He said that the conversations with the German state men at Chequers were merely a 'general exchange of views,' and no definite conclusion or decision had been reached....."





## Section 2

Brand on  
Dairy  
Industry

"We are facing an immediate overproduction problem if we continue our push behind the expansion of the dairy business without an increased effort being put forth to increase consumption through more efficient merchandising and advertising of dairy products," declares John Brandt, president of Land O'Lakes Creameries, Inc., who along with his regular heavy duties and responsibilities as directing head of this great cooperative organization now is engaged in a series of talks principally to farmers' gatherings, picnics and creamery meetings. To a representative of the Commercial West Mr. Brandt this week explained the dairy industry's present situation, in part, as follows: "The situation in the dairy business has gradually become more acute each month since November of 1929 and we now face the situation where prices have reached the lowest point we have seen for nearly a quarter of a century. There are thousands of tons of skimmilk being dumped into the sewers as prices for the manufactured products will not pay the manufacturing cost. Farmers in Saskatchewan are reported as being unable to get more than 10¢ per pound for butter and so are using the product as axle grease on their farm implements. While the farmers in Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, and part of the Dakotas are still getting a price considerably above 10¢, there are places in the United States where farmers during the first half of May only received 13¢ per pound for butterfat which is less than 10¢ per pound for their butter. A condition of this kind surrounding an all-important industry that is so necessary and essential both to prosperity and health in a nation that boasts of the standard of living we have here in America seems almost unbelievable. The situation is fast developing into a position where production will be materially decreased with the result that we will have too rapid advance in prices and consumption will be again curtailed..... The depression in dairying to-day is not caused by overproduction but rather by underconsumption and the need of the industry to-day is a combination of better merchandising and advertising of dairy products. Experience has proven that it is necessary to utilize the force of advertising to build up consumer acceptance of a product. It is also an established fact that a period of depression creates the best opportunity for creating demand and prestige for a brand name....."(Commercial West, June 6.)

Canadian-  
Australian  
Deal

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for June 10 says: "Canada and Australia have negotiated a new reciprocal trade agreement. In one section of the treaty Canada agrees to give Australia preferential rates on fresh, canned and dried fruits. This is of some importance to us as heretofore the Canadian market has been almost entirely monopolized by producers in the United States. We have a large and growing export trade in fruits and vegetables which in 1929 amounted to \$160,000,000, mostly fruit. Over half of this was in canned and dried goods. This has been real 'farm relief' for the fruit producers, and Canada has been furnishing a substantial part of it. But as the announcement of the agreement with Australia follows close on that of a revision upwards of the Canadian tariff, the inference is that the relief administered to the United States in the future will be somewhat smaller....."

Chase on  
Industry

Stuart Chase, "engineering economist," writing under the title "Harnessing the Wild Horses of Industry," elucidates the idea of a "plan" in the June Atlantic Monthly. He begins by telling of a young man's dream





of coordinating the industries of the Northwest, namely, of the States of Wisconsin, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, and Washington. He writes: "The population at the time of our study was approximately ten million. These ten millions, we argued, needed food, shelter, clothing, and reasonable comforts. In what tonnage and quantities? Our first task was to prepare a budget of minimum requirements cast in physical terms-- pounds of flour, pairs of shoes, suits of clothing, tons of fuel-- based on the health and decency schedules of the Bureau of Labor statistics. These consumable goods were then converted into producers' goods-- bushels of wheat, beef cattle, cotton, wool, lumber, coal, hydro-electric power. We also made side excursions into labor hours required to convert and distribute these staples.....With requirements in hand, we proceeded to estimate the productive plant and capacity of the seven States, in respect to both developed natural resources, including farm lands, and manufacturing establishments. What is now produced; what can be produced if the present acreage and plant are operated at capacity; what could be produced under a scientific rearrangement of economic factors? In the latter category the chase became-- for young idealists-- violently exciting. We gave modern engineering a free hand and proceeded to build up the living standards of the heavy-footed Scandinavians-- those steppes by leaps and bounds.....Productive powers were balanced against requirements, and surpluses and deficiencies struck. How far was the region self-sustaining? What did it lack, and what had it to exchange? In North Dakota, for instance, there was-- and is-- a vast surplus of wheat above the requirements, not only of the State but of the whole region, offset by a deficiency of lumber and water power. In Washington there was a surplus of lumber; in Wisconsin a surplus of dairy products and a deficiency of wool and cotton. In the whole area no sugar at all was produced. So, item by item, the score of the major staples was told. ....Finally came the Olympian task of reorganizing the economic framework-- building up self-sufficiency to the line of diminishing returns; arranging exportable surpluses against deficiencies on the principle of the 'balanced load' and straight line engineering. We called into being a mining and power center in the lignite fields of Northern Dakota; a woolen manufacturing center in the sheeplands of Montana, where water power was abundant...." Then this, in conclusion: "I am confident that the Northwest Project etched the final goal of economic planning, but more pedestrian steps must lead to it-- granting that the Republic ever elects to go in that direction at all....."

#### Farm Electri- fication

Farm electrification, just getting under way on a broad scale, eventually will change the whole economic set-up of the agricultural industry and help it to solve many of to-day's problems, in the opinion of leaders in the National Electric Light Association, which opened its fifty-fourth convention at Atlantic City June 8, according to the press of June 9. The report says: "The growing importance of the application of power to crop production was stressed at a conference of the rural electric service committee, which probably will recommend that the association make special research on the subject to anticipate further expansion in this field....."

#### Public Domain

An editorial in The Washington News for June 9 says: "Upwards of 100,000,000 acres of former virgin forest and farm land in the United States has come limping back into public ownership in the past few years





as the result of tax-delinquencies due to deforestation, poor farm practices and agricultural depression. Here is a new public domain, already more than one-half as large as the great Federal public domain of the West, bringing with it new burdens to counties and States and causing apprehension to statesmen and conservationists. Far more alarming than the immediate losses in taxable property are the losses in spiritual values following the impoverishment of whole countrysides, the dispossession of thousands of once-happy farmer folk, the abandonment of rural schools, the steady trek of country people from the land they loved to over-crowded cities. Toward this rather tragic situation the States generally are apathetic. An exception is New York, where Governor Roosevelt has begun an intelligent program to put the idle lands to work and halt the processes of making more acres idle. New York's '10 year plan' is now well under way. It contemplates, first, a survey of every acre of farm land in the State to determine its best economic utility; next, the planting to forests the idle and sub-marginal 'farms'; and, finally, creation of a new class of New Yorkers who are neither rural nor urban but both. This is to be brought about by encouraging small factories to locate in the country to give winter work to farmers' families and country life to factory workers.....New York's example should be an inspiration to other States to tackle their own problems of land-utilization before neglect, erosion and other demoralizing factors make it too late. It should spur also the Federal Government, whose national reforestation program calls for spending less than \$5,000,000 by 1944, or one-fourth that of the Empire State....."

---

Section 3

Department of  
Agriculture

George Lee Dowd, jr., is the author of a comprehensive article on the work of the Food and Drug Administration in Popular Science Monthly for July. Mr. Dowd tells how billions of bottles of beverages are drunk in America each year, and how, analyzed by Government experts, harmful ingredients are kept out of them. He says in part: "To quench the Great American Thirst, eleven billion bottles and glasses of soft drinks are consumed every year— enough to fill a giant bottle as wide at the base as a city block and twice as high as the Empire State Building, the world's tallest structure! This means that, if you are a law-abiding citizen in good health between eight and eighty, you probably will drink an average of one glassful a day during the three hot summer months.....Are they as wholesome and harmless as they look and taste? In most cases, you may rest assured that they are. The Government sees to that. They are tested and approved (or condemned) by Government laboratory experts. Because soft drinks contain a small percentage of food value, they come under the control of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. To enforce the Food and Drugs Act, the Department of Agriculture maintains a staff of 530 administrative officers, chemists, and other specialists in Washington and sixteen other important cities; It is part of their job to analyze your soft drinks, even if they consist of nothing but charged water.....Almost all fruit drinks contain artificial coloring. Cap or label will tell you whether or not any has been used in making your beverage. If it has, this is no indication of poor quality. Nor need you be frightened because it has been 'artificially flavored.' Both artificial colorings and flavorings must conform to the standards of the Food and Drug Administration. Sometimes they are even beneficial....."

---





# Section 4

## MARKET QUOTATIONS

### Farm Products

June 10.—Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice, \$6.50-8.90; cows, good and choice \$4.75-6.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25-8.60; vealers, good and choice \$8-9.50; Feeder and stocker cattle; Steers, good and choice \$6-7.50; Hogs, heavy weight (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.90-6.55; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$6.15-6.45; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations) \$6-6.35. Sheep; slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8-9.35; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40-8.25.

Grain prices: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 72 $\frac{1}{4}$ -75 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; No. 2 red winter wheat at St. Louis 79-80¢; Kansas City 74¢; No. 2 hard winter wheat Chicago 78¢; Kansas City 74¢; No. 3 mixed corn Minneapolis 46-47¢; Kansas City 49-49 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago 46 $\frac{1}{4}$ -56 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 48-49¢; St. Louis 58-58 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ -52 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 white oats at Chicago 28¢; Minneapolis 23-7/8-24-3/8¢; St. Louis 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 28-28 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

North and South Carolina Cobbler potatoes ranged \$2.25-3.25 per stave barrel in eastern city markets; mostly \$2 f.o.b. Mount Olive, N.C. Alabama sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.65-1.90 per 100 lbs. carlot sales in Chicago; mostly \$1 f.o.b. Mobile. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes brought \$2-3 per crate of standard 45s in consuming centers; 85¢-\$1 f.o.b. Brawley. Virginia Pointed type cabbage 40-90¢ per 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  bu. hamper in terminal markets. Delaware, Maryland, and New Jersey various varieties of strawberries brought 5-15¢ per qt. in city markets; Luptons and Gandy in 32-qt. crates \$2.50-3.25 f.o.b. Selbyville, Delaware. Missouri Aromas \$2.50-2.75 per 24-qt. crate in Chicago; \$2.25-2.50 f.o.b. Monett. Texas and California Yellow Bermuda onions \$1.25-1.65 per standard crate and 50-lb. sack in consuming centers.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 18 points to 7.30¢ per pound. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 13.87¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 18 points to 8.36¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 19 points to 8.41¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23-23 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; 91 score, 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; 90 score 22 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 14-14 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 14-14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

(Prepared by Bu. of Agric. Economics)

1871

1. The first of the year was a very cold day, with a heavy frost, and the wind from the north-east.

2. On the 2nd, the weather was much warmer, and the wind from the south-west.

3. On the 3rd, the weather was again cold, and the wind from the north-east.

4. On the 4th, the weather was very warm, and the wind from the south-west.

5. On the 5th, the weather was cold, and the wind from the north-east.

6. On the 6th, the weather was very warm, and the wind from the south-west.

7. On the 7th, the weather was cold, and the wind from the north-east.

8. On the 8th, the weather was very warm, and the wind from the south-west.

9. On the 9th, the weather was cold, and the wind from the north-east.

10. On the 10th, the weather was very warm, and the wind from the south-west.

11. On the 11th, the weather was cold, and the wind from the north-east.

12. On the 12th, the weather was very warm, and the wind from the south-west.

13. On the 13th, the weather was cold, and the wind from the north-east.

14. On the 14th, the weather was very warm, and the wind from the south-west.

15. On the 15th, the weather was cold, and the wind from the north-east.

16. On the 16th, the weather was very warm, and the wind from the south-west.

17. On the 17th, the weather was cold, and the wind from the north-east.

18. On the 18th, the weather was very warm, and the wind from the south-west.

19. On the 19th, the weather was cold, and the wind from the north-east.

20. On the 20th, the weather was very warm, and the wind from the south-west.

21. On the 21st, the weather was cold, and the wind from the north-east.

22. On the 22nd, the weather was very warm, and the wind from the south-west.

23. On the 23rd, the weather was cold, and the wind from the north-east.

24. On the 24th, the weather was very warm, and the wind from the south-west.

25. On the 25th, the weather was cold, and the wind from the north-east.

26. On the 26th, the weather was very warm, and the wind from the south-west.

27. On the 27th, the weather was cold, and the wind from the north-east.

28. On the 28th, the weather was very warm, and the wind from the south-west.

29. On the 29th, the weather was cold, and the wind from the north-east.

30. On the 30th, the weather was very warm, and the wind from the south-west.

31. On the 31st, the weather was cold, and the wind from the north-east.



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

VOL. XLI, No. 62

Section 1

June 12, 1931

## RAIL RATES

A New York dispatch to-day reports that the presidents of eastern, southern and western railroads, meeting at New York voted unanimously to petition the Interstate Commerce Commission for an increase in freight rates of 15 per cent. J. J. Pelley, president of the New York, New Haven & Hartford; Henry A. Scandrett, president of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific, and W. R. Cole, president of the Louisville & Nashville, were appointed a committee, representative of the eastern, western, and southern railways, respectively, to sign and present the petition to the commission. It is expected it will be filed next week.

## SUGAR TARIFF ASKED

Application for a further increase in tariff duties on raw and refined sugar, edible molasses, cane sirup and blackstrap molasses-- all the principal sugar forms-- was made to the Tariff Commission yesterday by J. C. Bailey, of Colorado, on behalf of western beet growers, according to the press to-day. The report says: "This came on the heels of a petition to President Hoover from the Cuban Chamber of Commerce-- representing millions of dollars in American capital-- seeking a lower rate in the form of a differential for Cuba double the present one. The increase from 1.76 to 2 cents a pound in the United States tariff on Cuban sugar, which became effective just a year ago, has acted, according to most reports, to stimulate greatly the duty-free imports from Hawaii, Porto Rico and the Philippines....."

## MEAT ADVERTISING

A Kansas City dispatch to-day says: "Midwest livestock exchanges are preparing to create a fund for the advertising of meat products through collection of 25 cents a car on receipts of hogs, cattle and sheep. The plan calls for placing the money thus derived at the disposal of the national livestock and meat board of Chicago, and contemplates participation of the Kansas City, St. Joseph, Omaha and Wichita, Kans., exchanges.

## FERTILIZER INDUSTRY

A White Sulphur, W. Va., dispatch to-day says: "Executives of the big fertilizer companies devoted the final session of the National Fertilizer Association at Hot Springs yesterday, to an amicable attempt to set their industry's house in order. Severe price cutting in many parts of the country was one subject of keen concern. May goods, it was complained, have been moved at prices that represent less than the cost of production. These conditions are largely due to the agricultural depression and the subsequent low farm purchasing power.....It was agreed that the industry must adjust its production to the purchasing power of the farmer. Figures offered indicate that the total sales of fertilizer in 1931 will be approximately 75 per cent of 1930, or slightly more than 6,000,000 tons."

## VETERANS' INSURANCE

Loans to World War veterans on adjusted service certificates totaled \$1,111,359,143 on June 6, the Veterans' Bureau announced yesterday. (Press, June 12.)





## Section 2

Blueberry  
Industry  
in  
Michigan

An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for June 6 says: "At a recent meeting of Michigan bankers at the State college, Dr. Victor R. Gardner, director of the experiment station, prophesied the development of a million dollar blueberry industry for the swamp lands of the State. Although Michigan has a greatly diversified list of farm crops, her farmers will profit much through the addition of other lines of farm production. The experiment station has done much careful work with blueberries and it is to be hoped that the investment in this study will return a thousand fold....."

Creamery  
Diversifi-  
cation

An editorial in The Dairy Record for June 3 says: "The business depression has hastened the trend toward diversification in the dairy business. Without it that diversification would have come anyway, but the depression emphasized its value. The larger dairy chain groups pointed the way and others followed suit, as witness the Beatrice Creamery Company with its entrance into the milk, ice cream and cheese fields, the Blue Valley Creamery Company into the milk business, Swift and Company into the ice cream business, and many others of lesser note. The cooperatives, too, are following the trend, although not quite so rapidly, as is evidenced by the fact that most of the new plants being constructed are of the flexible type, which permit a rapid change-over from one product to another. Even in plants located in the milk sheds of our larger cities, the change has been evident for attention has been focused on the need of handling surplus milk to the best advantage. And at the other end of the scale, small creameries which, until a few years ago, had never known anything but butter, are entering into the handling of any dairy product for which there is a near-by market. There will, of course, be opposition to the trend but the all-products plant has so amply demonstrated its practicability that opposition to it is merely wasted effort."

Farmer Or-  
ganization

The Financial Chronicle for June 6 says: "One of the difficulties in extending aid to the farmers, or even in instructing the farmers how to help themselves, arises from the old trouble of lack of organization among the farmers themselves.....Industry, long possessing the advantage of centralization, has shown cultivators of the land the way to become prosperous. Manufacturers have their local organizations, their State associations, and their national chambers. Meetings are held annually at which problems are submitted, discussed, and remedies recommended. All through the year every new phase of business is set forth in detail and submitted to members for consideration in order that recommendations may be obtained by officers in authority to act.....The farmer also needs an 'institute.' Such a central authority should be located in each section of the United States where resident farmers have certain interests in common-- cotton and tobacco in the South; wheat, corn, sheep, and cattle in the East and West Central Belt; spring wheat in the Northwest; fruits all along the Pacific Coast and in Florida. Such an organization might well take its cue from any one of a number of industries....."

French  
Bread  
Problems

Paris correspondence of The Journal of the American Medical Association for May 30 says: "The decision reached by the national government, following the formal opinions expressed by the Academy of Medicine, the superior council of public health and the Societe de therapeutique, together with the protests of the scientific press, to prohibit, in the manufacture of bread, the use of chemical substances (bromate and





persulphate of potassium, and the like) continues to stir the public and especially the flour milling industry. The millers contend that the harm or disadvantages of bread thus prepared have been greatly exaggerated. But the public has noted that physicians are more and more inclined to prohibit the use of bread in the diet of patients with dyspepsia and in disorders of nutrition. M. Schribaux, professor at the Institut agricole and member of the Academie d'agriculture, has launched a campaign to show that the wheat grown on French soil will furnish excellent flour, without the admixture of any chemical products or of any foreign type of wheat, but depending only on certain conditions, which can be readily supplied by the agriculturist, the miller and the baker. In the first place, greater care in the selection of seed wheat should be observed.....France can produce excellent wheat, furnish a flour that is rich in gluten, and supply a good quality of bread, without the necessity of importing foreign wheat, whereas the wheat imports last year took two billion francs (\$80,000,000) in gold out of the country....."

#### Heath Hen Survivor

Seth Gordon, President of the American Game Association, writes as follows in Field and Stream for July: "The last heath hen, the sole survivor of a once abundant race in the North Atlantic States, still roams the scrub-oak plains of Martha's Vineyard. Under the auspices of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Game, Dr. Alfred O. Gross of Bowdoin College, Maine, again studied and photographed this lonely but sagacious old male during the week of March 30 to April 4, 1931. On April 1, during a downpour of rain, the wary old fellow was trapped, photographed, and banded. Two bands were attached, one of aluminum (number 407,880) on the left leg, and one of copper (number A-634,024) on the right leg, so that if he is killed and his legs are scattered by some predator the bands will serve as a means of positive identification. This bird seemed to like the history-recording operations so well that he returned to the blind the very next day and gave the observers another chance to make additional moving pictures. Doctor Gross estimates the age of this bird as at least seven years, and says that the bird was in fine condition but that it uttered no booming challenge to attract a mate. It is truly remarkable that this bird has escaped his many enemies so long. In 1924 the last young were seen. In April of that year fifty-four birds were observed. In spite of combined efforts of various agencies, there were but thirteen in 1927, only two of which were females. That autumn only seven birds appeared, and in April, 1928, only three males were seen on the ancestral booming grounds. Then another disappeared. Two were reported regularly until December 8, 1928, since which time only one bird has been observed. Ornithologists now agree that the heath hen is merely the eastern cousin of the prairie chicken, and that they are not separate and distinct species. Unless the cousins on the prairies are safeguarded properly, they too may become an ornithological curiosity in a comparatively few years."

#### "Master Planning"

The Financial Chronicle for June 6 says: "Modernizing, methodizing, standardizing, business-- promise alleviation of economic ills in times of depression. The whole world is not stirred, by conditions, into a veritable furore of theories. It is averred we ought never to have allowed this debacle to creep upon us; must certainly prevent another in the future.....One of the chief methods proposed for the cure and prevention of future depressions is the coordination of all industry and commerce. It is the 'big idea' of to-day! Somehow, and by someone, there

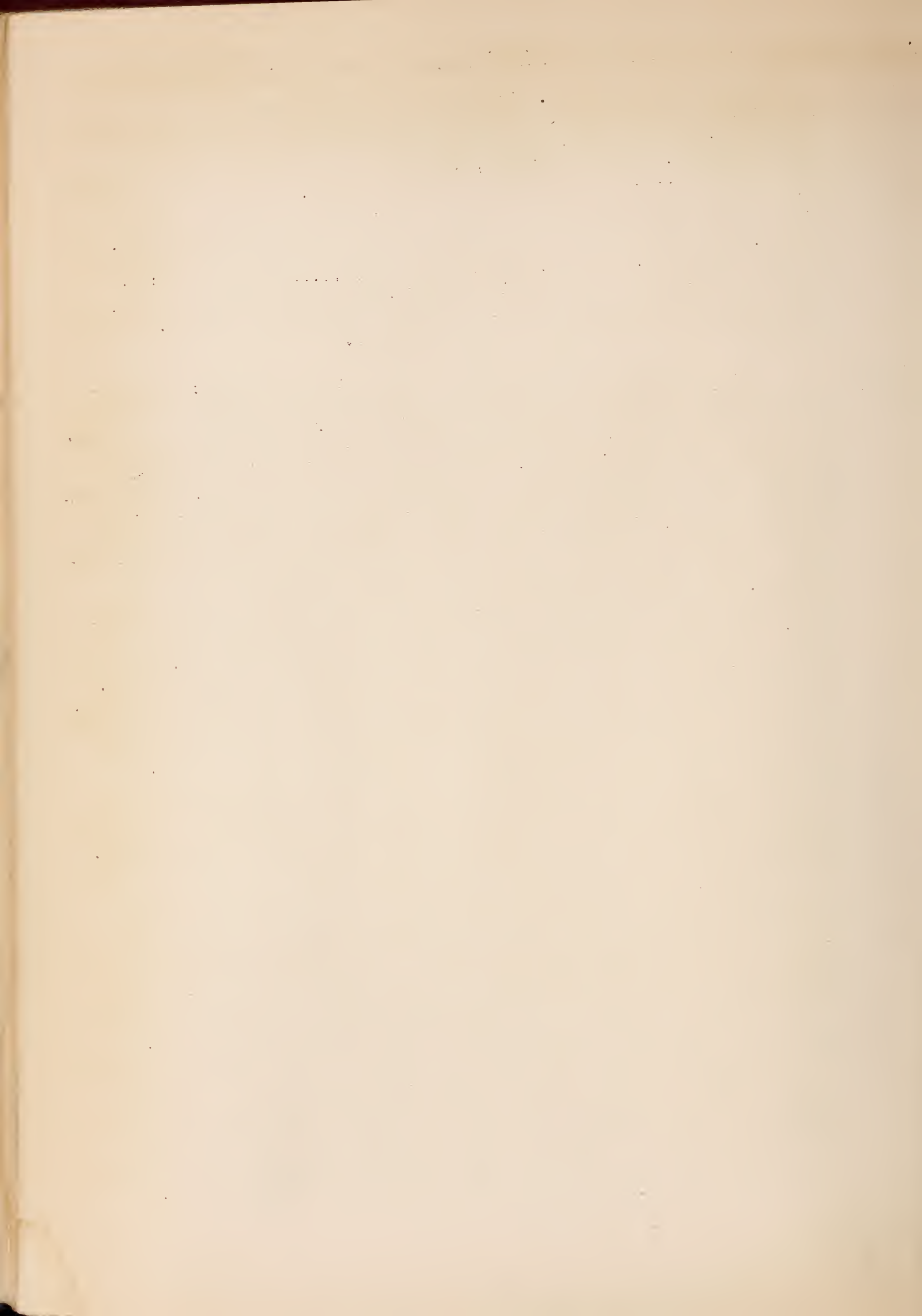




is to appear a Master Plan. Production and consumption are to be made to counterbalance each other. The load of distribution is to be equalized everywhere, all the time. Supply and demand are to dovetail into an exact equation. Prices, profits, wages are to be uniform-- never running into conflict.....We overproduce and underconsume. We try to force economics into a straight-jacket of law, rule, custom-- creating general diversity and disparity, with consequent stock smashes, unemployment, low prices, high and low wages alternately, and all the evils of a helter-skelter 'business' on a go-as-you-please basis.....We need (and 'we' means all workers of the world) a 'plan'--then no labor will be lost, no waste result, no poverty remain, no cycles, depressions, debacles, come-- all will be well in the best of all worlds....."

Pure Food  
Indorse-  
ment

An editorial in The Washington Post for June 11 says: "Entrance of the American Medical Association in establishing a system of indorsing pure and wholesome food products, is making a most interesting experiment. At present the public is protected only by the pure food law enforced by the Department of Agriculture. Most foods unfit for public consumption are kept from the market under the operation of this statute, but the public is still victimized by false advertisements and innumerable dietary fads and frauds. The Medical Association intends to indorse every wholesome food that is brought to its special committee for investigation, providing that it is honestly advertised. When a food product has been brought into conformity with the association's standards it may use a seal showing that it has the indorsement of that organization's specialists. All foods so approved must be submitted for frequent tests to see if their standards of excellence are being maintained. The committee will also undertake to censor all advertisements of these indorsed products. If they should be falsely represented to the public the indorsement would, of course, be withdrawn. The rigid scrutiny to which products are subjected by the committee is illustrated by its action on the 500 foods which it examined last year. Seventy-five were allowed to use the seal, but 425 were found to be objectionable in some respect. In many cases the objection relates to inaccurate advertising. Some manufacturers are re-naming their products, and others are changing the character of their advertisements to bring their foods within the association's requirements. This committee has an opportunity to perform service of inestimable value to the public. The Government is not able to detect all misbranded and adulterated foods. It does well to protect consumers from deliberate fraud and impurities. The medical association proposes to add to this service a guide to excellence in edibles. It is quite impossible for the buying public to know the relative value of comestibles in these days of manufactured foods, yet it is highly important that the housewife should be able to choose wisely. The contribution which the medical association proposes to make will be most welcome. Food manufacturers are not, of course, required to have their products tested by this voluntary committee but the value of an indorsement by the medical association is incentive enough to induce all high grade firms to seek its approval. No fee is charged for investigating a food, and the chances of an unworthy product being indorsed are negligible. This experiment should go a long way toward improving the quality of food that is consumed, as well as driving out useless concoctions and promoting truthfulness in advertising."





Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONSFarm  
Products

June 11.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7-8.90; Cows, good and choice \$4.75-6.25; Heifers, (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25-8.75; Vealers, good and choice \$8-9.50; Feeder and stocker cattle; Steers, good and choice \$6-7.50; Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.10-6.75; Light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$6.35-6.65; Slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.15-6.60; (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations); Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8.25-9.50; Feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40-8.25.

Grain: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 75-7/8-78-7/8¢; No. 2 red winter St. Louis 80-81¢; No. 2 hard winter Kansas City 75¢; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago 55<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢; Minneapolis 46-47¢; Kansas City 48-49¢; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago 55<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-56¢; Minneapolis 48-49¢; St. Louis 56<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢; Kansas City 50<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-51<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢; No. 3 white oats Chicago 25<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢; Minneapolis 23-3/8-23-7/8¢; St. Louis 28-28<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢; Kansas City 28-29¢.

North and South Carolina Cobbler potatoes ranged \$2.50-3 per stave barrel in eastern cities; \$2 f.o.b. Mount Olive. Louisiana and Alabama sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.75-2 per 100 lbs. carlot sales in Chicago; mostly \$1.10 f.o.b. Mobile. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$2-2.75 per standard 45s in consuming centers; 75-90¢ f.o.b. Brawley. Florida Tom Watson watermelons, 26-28 lb. average \$570-595 bulk per car in New York City; 24-30 lb. average \$300-400 f.o.b. Leesburg. Eastern various varieties of strawberries brought \$2-4 per 32-qt. crate in city markets; \$1.25-2.20 f.o.b. Delaware points. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions ranged \$1-1.50 per standard crate and 50-lb. sack in consuming centers. California stock \$1.25-1.65 in a few cities.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets advanced 25 points up to 8.05¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 13.56¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 22 points to 8.58¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 17 points to 8.58¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23¢; 91 score, 22<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>¢; 90 score, 22<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-14<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢; Single Daisies, 14-14<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>¢; Young Americas, 14-14<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢.  
(Prepared by Bu. of Agric. Econ.)

---





# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

VOL. XLI, No. 63

Section 1

June 13, 1931

## BUSINESS CONDITIONS

The most significant aspect of the present business reaction is that, while there has been "perhaps the worst general economic breakdown in history, we have not had any semblance of a financial panic" such as characterized some previous depressions, Rome C. Stephenson, president, American Bankers Association, declared at Pittsburgh, June 12, before the American Institute of Banking convention. Terming unemployment the greatest public problem in the country to-day, he said that the sooner we can get our masses of workers back into jobs on almost any terms the better it will be for both capital and labor. (Press, June 13.)

## COOPERATIVES IN EAST

A New Brunswick, N. J., dispatch June 11 says: "Eastern agriculture need not fear that support given farmers' cooperative associations of distant areas by the Federal Farm Board will add to the already stiff competition for profitable sales in eastern markets, Charles S. Wilson, a member of the Farm Board, declared at the annual field day exercises of the New Jersey State College of Agriculture and Experiment Station at New Brunswick, June 10. The aid of the board, Mr. Wilson said, is to lessen the competition that eastern and all other farmers now face. This is possible, he continued, if farmers throughout the country accept the board's program for the organization of national cooperative associations.....Reporting on a study of New Jersey farm cooperative associations made by the Farm Board and the State Agricultural Experiment Station, Mr. Wilson said that the sixty-five such associations did a business of \$14,959,877 in 1929. Membership in these associations was reported as 13,845 farmers....."

## RUBBER INDUSTRY

Not a single dollar profit in an annual business of \$1,000,000,000 has been made by the rubber industry in the United States in ten years, according to F. A. Seiberling, president of the Seiberling Rubber Company, speaking before the National Association of Purchasing Agents at Toronto yesterday, according to the press to-day. "Crude rubber to-day," he said, "is at the lowest in its history." Ernest B. Ross, purchasing agent for the Dunlop Tire and Rubber Company, said: "The rubber industry has itself to blame for lack of profit. In 1913 the cost per 1,000 miles per tire was \$18; in 1931 it was 80 cents per 1,000 miles. No commodity has dropped in price as have tires."

## FORD TO EXPERIMENT ON 3,000 ACRE FARM

A Detroit dispatch to-day states that Henry Ford has taken up intensive farming on a 3,000-acre tract of land in Lenawee County, bordering on the southern line of Michigan. A large group of ancestral farms in Malon and adjoining townships have been purchased by him and are to be operated as an experiment designed to solve some of the problems of agriculture, and to open new doors of progress for the farmer.





## Section 2

Cars and  
Game De-  
struction

An editorial in Field and Stream for July says, in part: "The automobile has long been recognized as a menace to game, due to the fact that it has made available distant covers where formerly birds and animals lived unmolested. No law can protect the game from such a menace. The establishment of refuges will to some extent solve the problem. And yet the automobile actually kills game. Every one who travels the highways to-day knows this. Dead birds and animals are in evidence along every road. Mr. Homer L. Metzger of Waterville, Ohio, drives each day, except Sunday, from his home to his office in Toledo. The exact distance covered is 18.6 miles each way. Between four and five miles of this is in the city of Toledo. During the months of March, April, May and June, Mr. Metzger kept a list of the dead birds and animals he passed on this strip of highway. The list which he has sent Field and Stream totals 442 casualties. Where he was unable to identify the bird as he passed in the car he placed a check on his list under 'song birds.' This column totals 178. Rabbits come second with a total of 63. The list also contains quail, bluebirds, orioles and other favorites. The only bright spot in the picture is the total of 16 house cats. Stop and consider the short strip of road taken into account and that a record was kept for only four months out of the twelve. The numbers of game and song birds killed by motor cars over the United States must reach enormous proportions. If you like to play with figures, here is an opportunity. The Bureau of Public Roads of the United States Department of Agriculture reports that there are over 660,000 miles of paved roads in the United States. Small game and birds are not the only sufferers. Accounts of deer killed by automobiles are quite common, and there are authentic records of bear and moose having been run down....."

Irish  
Milk

The Irish correspondent for The British Medical Journal for May 30 says: "At a recent meeting of the Irish Clean Milk Society, held in Dublin, Sir Edward Coey Bigger, in the chair, declared that if the public was assured that the milk supply was perfectly safe and free from disease, the consumption of milk would undoubtedly be greatly increased. Milk was one of the best and cheapest foods, especially for infants and children, and something had been done to improve it by the use of preservatives. In presenting the report Professor J. W. Bigger, of Trinity College, chairman of the committee, said that the Irish Clean Milk Society's activities during the past year had been chiefly educational-- for example, in emphasizing the dangers lurking in milk. When the society was founded there were no suppliers of tubercle-free milk in the neighborhood of Dublin; to-day there were a considerable number who supplied absolutely safe, clean milk-- a change that had been brought about largely by the society's efforts. The farmer who took the trouble to supply clean milk would find a market for it. They had failed, however, to secure legislation to improve the milk supply in the country. At present the Irish Free State was behind England, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. Scotland had about one hundred tubercle-tested herds and Northern Ireland about thirty, all under government control. In Ireland there were a number of tested herds, but absolutely no government control. The Inter-Departmental Committee, appointed in 1928, recommended that a system of graded milk should be introduced, and that there should be a penalty for selling dirty milk; yet the government had done nothing.....In the Irish Free State several hundred babies died every year because they were fed on contaminated milk. These deaths were preventable and absolutely unneces-





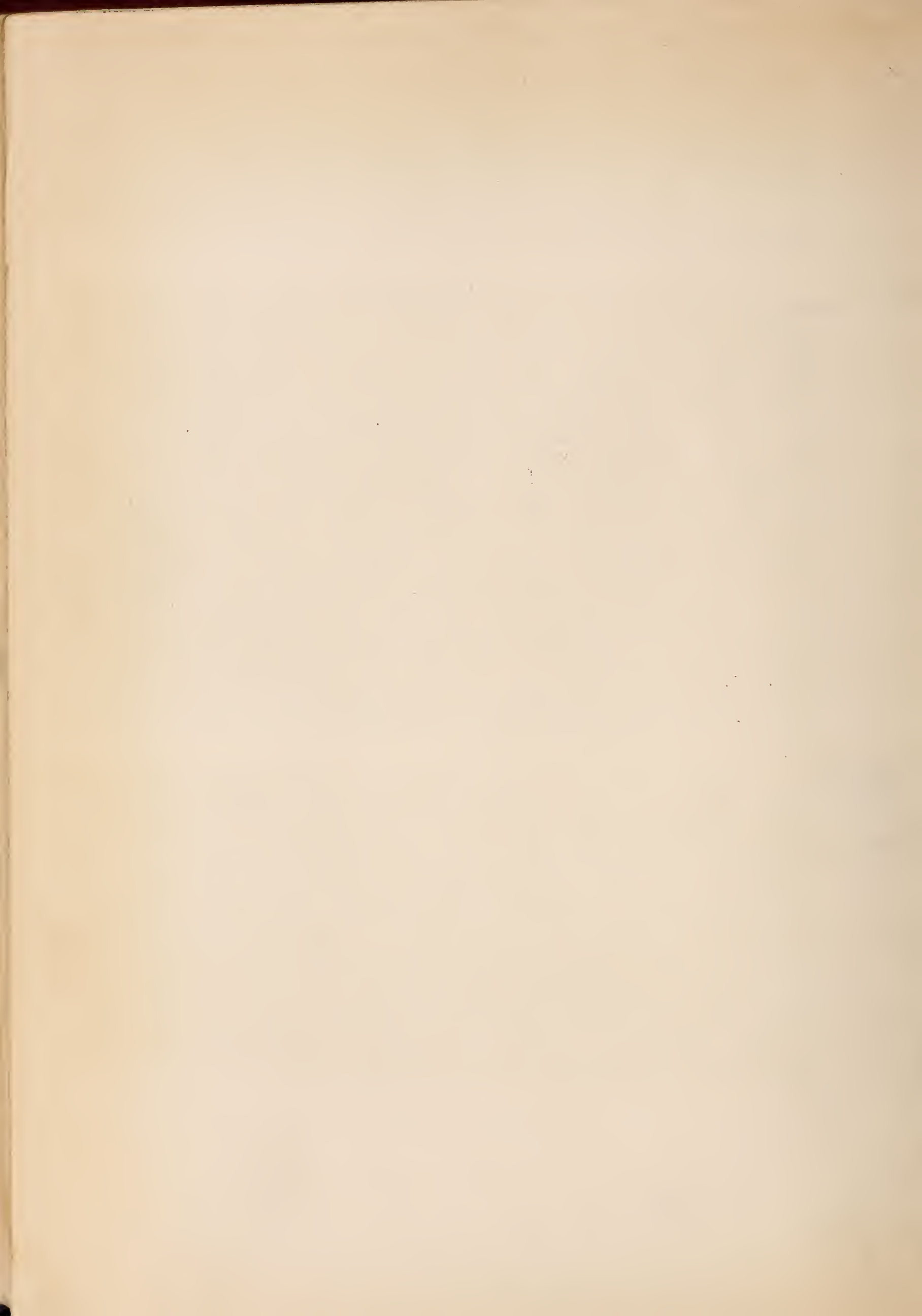
sary. To fail to prevent death was morally the same as murder, and the responsibility rested with every Minister and member of the Dail and Senate, who obstructed in any way the introduction of legislation which tended to improve the milk supply. In proposing the adoption of the report Professor T. Gillman Moorhead, President of the Royal College of Physicians, said that the latest returns from the Public Health Department of the Saorstat showed that while pulmonary tuberculosis was declining surgical tuberculosis was not, and that it would not decline until legislation was introduced to provide clean milk....."

#### Meat Prices

An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for June 6 says: "The Omaha Livestock Exchange has written Secretary of Agriculture Hyde urging him to bring pressure on retailers and hotel and restaurant men in the country for lower prices on meat products in proportion to the decline in the cost of the live animal. The exchange points out that this would increase consumption of meat and improve the prices of fat livestock. It believes that the continued decline in the price of livestock for the past few months has not been accompanied by sufficient reduction in retail prices to be of much benefit to the consumer, and that this results in a restriction of consumption, which penalizes the livestock owner. It is a fact that cattle and hog prices are the lowest they have been in the past 20 years, and but little more than half of what they were a year ago. While unemployment and low prices for other food products may also be a factor in the decreased consumption of meat, there is, no doubt, need for a better relationship between wholesale and retail prices. This is also true of commodities other than meat. The executive committee of the National Association of Manufacturers has released a statement asking retailers to give consumers the benefit of wholesale price reductions in order to speed up business. They point out that from January, 1930, to March, 1931, the average decline of wholesale prices was 23 per cent. During the same period the cost of merchandise, as represented by retail prices, declined 10.3 per cent....."

#### Scientists in British Civil Service

Nature (London) for May 23 says: ".....The British Science Guild's Committee finds that 'The evidence which has been obtained by us shows that, as a general rule, the position of the scientific and technical staffs in the Home Civil Service is most unsatisfactory, and that, in the interests of efficient administration and national development, drastic reforms are needed in the organization of many of the civil departments of the Government.' In order that the scientific and technical staffs should exercise their function properly it is imperative that the position occupied by the Minister of a civil department should be altered to accord with present-day requirements; and, further, that the responsibilities of the scientific and technical staffs in relation to the Minister should be clearly and specifically prescribed. The heads of the scientific and technical departments should, it is submitted, be colleagues of, and be equal in status with, the permanent heads of departments, and not subordinates under a secretariat or similar body....."





# DAILY DIGEST

---

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

---

VOL. XLI, No. 64

Section 1

June 15, 1931

## DR. HOWARD WINS CAPPER MEDAL

Dr. Leland O. Howard, former chief of the Bureau of Entomology, Department of Agriculture, with which he has been affiliated for half a century, was awarded the 1931 Capper gold medal and \$5,000, June 12, for distinguished service to American agriculture, according to an Associated Press dispatch from Chicago. The award, which is given annually by Senator Arthur Capper, of Kansas, was won last year by S. M. Babcock, of Madison, Wis.

## TRADE STABILIZATION PLAN

The press to-day says: "The first definite move for setting up a ten-year plan for American industry, with the object of stabilizing production, eliminating unemployment and integrating the industrial and economic structure of the Nation, was taken yesterday by the National Civic Federation in a letter to leaders of American industry and organized labor. The letter urged the calling of a national congress to discuss and formulate a program of industrial readjustment and create permanent machinery for this purpose. The National Civic Federation, of which Elihu Root is honorary president, sent out the letter over the signature of James W. Gerard, former Ambassador and chairman of the federation's commission on industrial inquiry. The plan grew from a proposal addressed to Mr. Gerard by Matthew Woll, acting president of the federation and vice president of the American Federation of Labor....."

## BRAZIL PLANS TO BURN COFFEE

A Santos dispatch to-day says: "A large part of the 50,000 bags of low grade coffee purchased by the government recently with the proceeds of the 10 shillings a bag tax will be incinerated here this week as part of the administration drive to reduce the Brazilian surplus, it was announced June 14. A week ago the government dumped 5,000 bags of coffee into the Atlantic."

## BRITAIN JOINS FARM CREDIT BODY

A Geneva dispatch to-day states that the British government announced at Geneva yesterday that it was prepared to sign the convention establishing the International Agricultural Mortgage Credit Company. The report says: "This is expected to lead a number of lending countries, such as Holland and the Scandinavian nations, to follow. Their failure to sign when the convention was adopted at the recent session of the European commission was attributed to Britain's hesitancy. Aside from the Eastern European countries who expect to borrow from the bank, the only powers who have signed are France, Italy, and Belgium."

## FOREIGN TRAVEL DROP

The press to-day states that State Department figures show a sharp decrease for the first time in eight years in the number of passports issued. It estimates that 156,715 new and renewed passports will be issued by June 30, a decrease of more than 50,000 as compared with last year.



...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...

...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...

...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...

...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...

...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...  
...the ... of ...

## Section 2

Commodity Stabilization James G. Donley writes under the title "Can Chadbourne's Sugar Plan Win Out?" in Forbes for June 15. He says in part: ".....Commodities, embracing all the important raw materials of industry, are at the very foundation of our economic structure.....For example, look at coffee. Restrictions of areas began in 1902, followed by vaporizations. The state of Sao Paulo, Brazil, has by gift of nature a practical monopoly. But checks on exports in recent years, with no check on production, have brought about an impossible situation. At the end of this season, Sao Paulo will have two years' normal supply already on hand, and the new crop will add sufficient for one and one-half years more. No wonder coffee has dropped to new low records! If we may do so without offending coffee, the palm for the self-inflicted poverty of overabundance may be awarded to sugar. Sugar is truly a world commodity, as to production as well as consumption, for sugar beets may be grown practically anywhere. Sugar is selling at less than one-half the cost of production in even the cheapest producing areas. 'Selling' is used euphoniously; there is very little market for sugar because of the operation of a human law by which desirability is in inverse ratio to availability.....But sugar is likely to win back to its old status as a staple and vendible commodity-- and something more. Through the operation of the so-called Chadbourne plan, sugar may become the keystone of the arch of a reconstruction era in commodities. Because it is a world commodity, it is admirably suited to the role it may play in awakening the producers of the world to full realization of mutuality of interests, to the necessity of coordination, and later to its benefits. The world has suffered grievously through becoming 'commodity poor.' It may well be that through the years to come it will reap from the inventions of this necessity in such measure as to enable it to look back and smile upon its present difficulties. It is conceivable that coordination of world production may result, in greater degree than has heretofore been possible, in stabilization of employment, temperate fluctuations in farm land values, increased safety of investments, and more evenly profitable operations....."

Egyptian Cotton "The report that the Egyptian Government has under consideration an extensive campaign for the promotion of the sale of cotton abroad makes welcome hearing. There is little doubt that the restrictions introduced by previous administrations have been prejudicial to the market for Egyptian cotton, as the tendency has been for spinners to turn to other types. It is also certain that, provided Egypt will produce cotton of the desired quality and at a reasonable price, there will always be a satisfactory market for it. In the memorandum on a stable cotton policy for Egypt which was summarized in these columns recently, it was pointed out that Egypt's policy should aim at intensifying in the greatest possible measure the production of types of cotton for general use, and the aim of view of Dr. Lawrence Ball was cited that the Egyptian Government should/ at achieving the largest possible output from the largest possible area. As a corollary to that, it follows that propaganda is necessary to widen the market for Egyptian cotton, to inform would-be users of its merits, and generally to pave the way for the disposal of a larger output. At the present time the increased output is a thing of the future, but the undertaking of propaganda at this juncture is called for by the existing production, and the careful utilization of advertisement now will usefully prepare the ground for the future." (The Near East and India, May 28.)





**Fish-  
Raising on  
Farms**      Agriculturists are now going in for "aquaculture"-- raising game fish at so much a thousand, says a bulletin of the American Game Association. The Nebraska Game Commission's plan encouraging landowners to raise game fish at a profit has been declared a success, and several other States are considering a similar move. Last season fifteen Nebraska landowners raised 100,000 fingerling bass in twenty-two ponds. This "aquacultural" crop was the offspring of only 150 pairs of adult bass purchased from the State department and placed in the ponds.

**Meat  
Prices**      "In examining the causes of continuing depression it may be worth while to consider the formal charge of the Omaha Livestock Exchange that retail butchers, hotel and restaurant men have failed to reduce their prices on meat products in line with the declining cost of livestock. Prices for livestock have declined sharply in the last two months, beef reaching the lowest level in twenty years and pork going proportionately lower. Very little of the saving has been passed along to the public, says the Exchange in asking Secretary of Agriculture Hyde to take appropriate action. We wonder whether similar complaints are not justified in other lines. Some lag between wholesale and retail prices, of course, is inevitable, but too much lag completely gums the economic machinery and this unquestionably is one of our present difficulties. It is improbable that anything can be done about it. Fully aware of the trend, the larger merchandizing organizations take the lead in passing along lower prices to the consumer and their competition tends to force independent retailers into line. Even after the basic decline is halted, the ultimate retail readjustment probably will require some time." (The Magazine of Wall Street, June 13.)

**Mortgage  
Bank  
Plans**      The press of June 11 states that Government officials are studying other nations' mortgage systems to determine the practicability of creating a Federal mortgage bank system to aid prospective home builders. The report says: "Proponents of a national home financing system have contended it would have a stabilizing influence upon the real estate and construction industries and that it would facilitate movement of capital from areas with surplus to those of greater investment opportunity. Inquiry as to how a system could be established permitting the discounting of urban residence mortgages, as well as a study of long and short term credit, as applied to home financing, was urged at the recent annual convention of the National Association of Real Estate Boards. Senator Foss, of Ohio, has conferred with President Hoover on the problem. The President has voiced his opposition to the present system of home financing. Several months ago he described it, particularly as to second mortgages, as 'the most backward segment of our whole credit system.'....."

**Wheat  
Surplus**      L. R. Waldron, of Fargo, N. Dak., writes on "Wheat Surplus and its Cause," in Nature (London) for May 23. He says in part: "The comment made by Prof. Piaggio in Nature of March 21, upon the address by Sir Arthur Eddington, cites the famous prophecy by Sir William Crookes, made near the end of the last century, as to the probable wheat supply in the future, say thirty years from the time of his address. The comment indicates that the present wheat surplus is due to the recent advances in fixing nitrogen and making new fertilizers. Sir William Crookes saw future controlled nitrogen fixation as the gleam of light amid the murky gloom of anticipated short wheat rations. While modern fertilizers may





have had a slight influence in bringing about the present flood of wheat, their effect has certainly been a minor one. The increase in the world's wheat production above what was anticipated is a complicated problem, but the utilizing of new types of machinery has certainly been a dominant factor.....Sir William Crookes' dictum was that the world's average yield per acre would have to be increased very materially to make up the impending shortage, and that such an increase would necessitate the comparatively abundant use of nitrogenous fertilizers....."

---

### Section 3

Department of  
Agriculture

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for June 13 says: "It doesn't pay to be too stuck up. That applies to races as well as to individuals. The first Europeans to land in America thought corn was a queer looking grain, but they were hungry and they had to eat it. About other plants used by Indians for medicine or food, the whites were not nearly so broad-minded. The Bureau of Chemistry and Soils of the Department of Agriculture now believes that there are hundreds of uncultivated plants in the United States that the Indians knew how to use that will repay further investigation. There have always been Indian herb doctors, of course. In the early days, many a pioneer used Indian remedies, though the doctors later shamed him out of the habit. The joke is that modern medical experts, investigating the herbal remedies of tribes like the Cherokees, have found that a high percentage of their remedies were sound and that most of the balance were at least harmless. Quinine, of course, is a standard remedy that comes from the Indians of South America. Prairie potato, wild licorice and camas are listed as indigenous plants used by the Indians that have food values that could well be used by modern farmers....."

---





# Section 4

## MARKET QUOTATIONS

### Farm Products

June 12.—Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25-8.90; Cows, good and choice \$4.75-6.25; Heifers, (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25-8.75; Vealers, good and choice \$8-9.50; feeder and stocker cattle; Steers, good and choice \$6-7.50; Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25-7.10; Light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75-7; Slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50-6.85 (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations); Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8.25-9.50; Feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40-8.25.

Grain prices: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $77\frac{1}{4}$ - $80\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; No. 2 red winter Chicago 84¢; St. Louis 82-83¢; Kansas City  $75\frac{1}{2}$ -76¢; No. 2 hard winter Kansas City  $75\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago 55¢; Kansas City  $48\frac{1}{2}$ - $49\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 yellow corn Minneapolis 48-49¢; St. Louis  $56\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 50-51¢; No. 3 white oats Chicago 27¢; Minneapolis 23-5/8-24-1/8¢; St. Louis  $27\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 28-29¢.

North and South Carolina Cobbler potatoes ranged \$2.25-3.25 per stave barrel in eastern cities; \$2 f.o.b. Mount Olive. Alabama and Louisiana Sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.90-2.15 per 100 lbs. carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.15-1.20 f.o.b. Mobile. Maine sacked Green Mountains \$1.50-1.90 in the East. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$2.-2.75 per standard crate of 45s in city markets; 75-90¢ f.o.b. Brawley. Eastern various varieties of strawberries in 32-qt. crates, \$1.50-3.50 in terminal markets; \$1.50-3.75 f.o.b. Delaware points. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions \$1-1.50 per standard crate and 50-lb. sack in consuming centers.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 2 points to 8.07¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price was 13.28¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 2 points to 8.60¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 3 points to 8.61¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23¢; 91 score,  $22\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; 90 score,  $22\frac{1}{4}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ - $14\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 14- $14\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 14- $14\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.  
(Prepared by Bu. of Agric. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

VOL. XLI, No. 65

Section 1

June 16, 1931

## THE PRESIDENT ON ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

An Indianapolis, Ind., dispatch to-day, reporting President Hoover's address last night before the Indiana Republican Editorial Association, says: "President Hoover pointed the Nation last night to an era of prosperity 'greater than ever before' and called upon the people to replace the fear and apprehension of the depression with an armor of confidence. 'The underlying forces of recovery are asserting themselves,' he assured. 'Our transcendent momentary need is a much larger degree of confidence among our business agencies and that they shall extend this confidence in more than words.'....He proposed a revision of the whole national and local taxation system, with a view to relieving home owners, landowners, and farmers. He advocated revision of the Federal Reserve and national banking systems to prevent diversion of money into channels of speculation and stock promotion and give greater protection against failures. He condemned the capital gains and loss tax.....Referring to the Russian five-year plan 'through which Russia is struggling to redeem herself from the ten years of starvation and misery,' Mr. Hoover proposed an 'American plan' to take care of a 20,000,000 increase in population in the next twenty years...."

Regarding the tariff and its relation to agriculture, the President said: "There have been some complaints from foreign countries over the revision of our tariff and it is proposed that we can expedite recovery by another revision. Nothing would more prolong the depression than a session of Congress devoted to this purpose. There are no doubt inequities and inequalities in some of our tariff rates; that is inherent in any congressional revision. But we have for the first time effective machinery in motion through a Tariff Commission with authority for any necessary rectification. And that machinery is functioning.

"An analysis indicates that the large majority of these foreign complaints are directed against added protection we have given to agriculture. I believe that some of these countries do not realize the profound hardship which they themselves -- with no malevolent purpose -- have imposed on the American farmer. Improved machinery, the development of refrigeration and cheapening of sea transportation have created for them great resources from their virgin lands and cheaper labor. As a result they have taken profitable export markets from the American farmer. There have been complaints from older nations who import a portion of their food products and export another portion. Yet these nations look upon their own agriculture as a way of life and as vital to their national security, and have long since adopted protective tariffs against the special farm products of the United States. We do not reproach them, for we, too, look upon a healthy agriculture as indispensable to the Nation. The growth of our industrial population will ultimately absorb the production of our farmers, but our agriculture was attuned to the export business and is of necessity passing a prolonged crisis in its shift to a domestic basis. Our tariff had proved so low that our farmers were being crowded even from the domestic market in many products which by use as diversification they can substitute to take up the slack in export business. From that condition we have given him protection, and we stand upon it....."

## FARM BOARD TO SELL WHEAT ABROAD

Chairman Stone of the Farm Board said yesterday that the board's stabilization wheat will be sold abroad for as long as it does not disturb the world market. (A.P., June 16.)





## Section 2

Electricity  
on Farms

A total of 647,677 farms in the United States were on the lines of electric light and power companies at the close of 1930, an addition of 90,806 farms for the year, according to a comprehensive estimate by the National Electric Light Association. The increase of 16.3 per cent followed a gain of 20.8 per cent in 1929, when 95,902 farms were connected to utility lines. The press of June 14, which makes this statement, continues: "The electric systems are devoting continued efforts this year toward further extension of rural electrification, which they consider is one of the principal fields for load building. Far from being hazardous and unprofitable, as considered before the war, a system of service charges based on the 'Adirondack Extension' plan of the New York Power and Light Corporation has come into nation-wide use and considerably speeded up farm electrification in the last few years. California ranks first among the States in the number of electrified farms, with 81,250 at the end of 1930, a gain of 8,560 or 11.8 per cent, comparing with 72,690 at the close of 1929 and 62,720 the year before. New York ranks second in number of farms served, with 61,086 at the end of 1930, and made one of the largest gains, adding 8,026 farms, or 15.1 per cent, compared with 53,060 farms on Dec. 31, 1929, and 47,800 farms the year before. Ohio comes third with 45,767 farms, a gain of 7,722, or 20.3 per cent, in 1930; Washington fourth with 41,653 farms, a gain of 3,840, or 10.2 per cent; and Pennsylvania fifth with 40,903 farms, a gain of 7,567, or 22.7 per cent. Wisconsin was next with 36,181 farms, up 6,004, or 19.9 per cent, while no other State had more than 30,000 farms provided with electricity at the end of 1930. The East South Central States-- Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi-- made the largest regional gain in 1930, adding 7,475 farms to their lines, a gain of 39.7 per cent for the year. New England made the smallest gain, at 3,224 farms, or 7.8 per cent....."

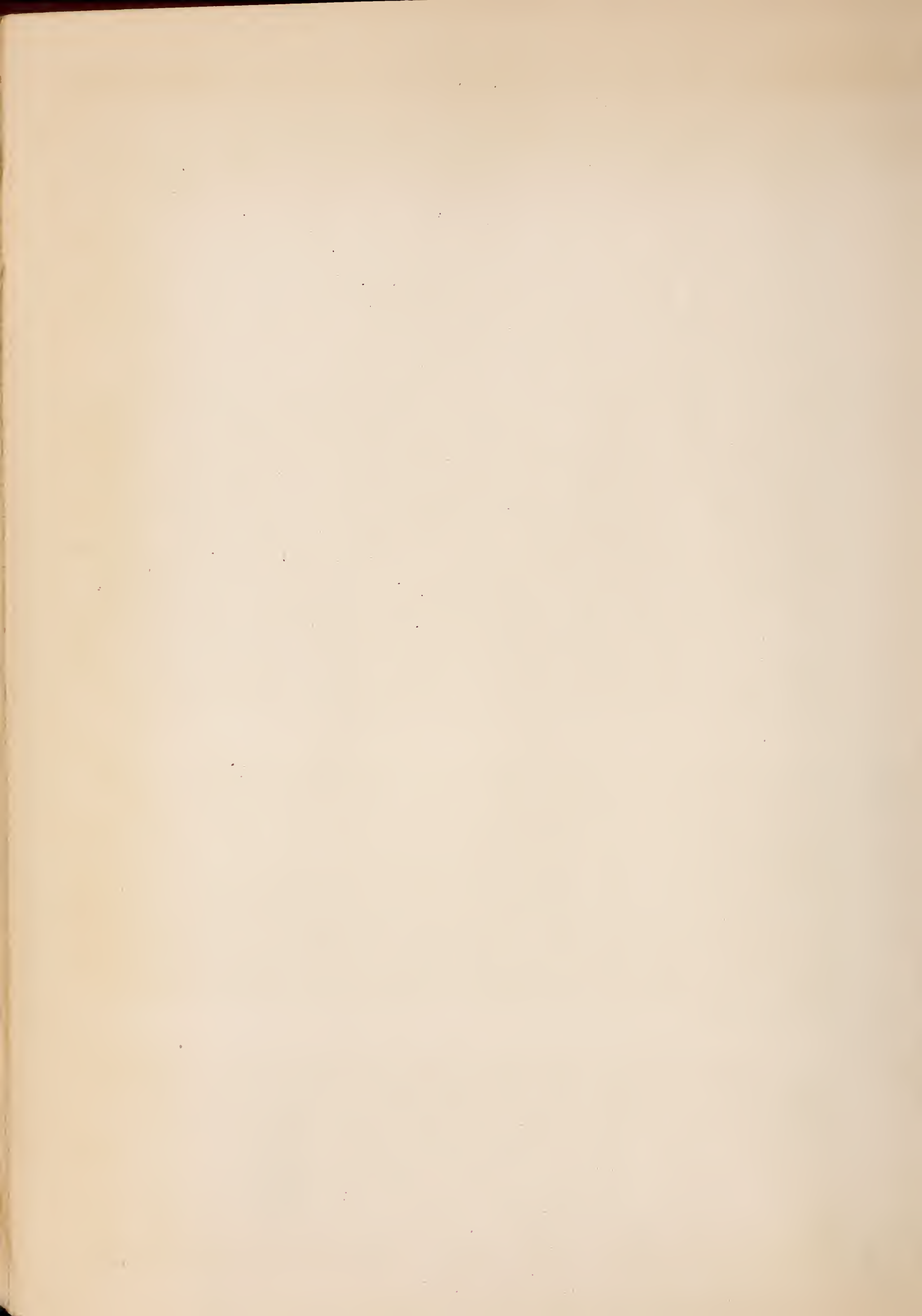
Milk  
Industry  
Equipment

Concentrated Milk Industries for June says: "Managers of industrial plants in this country take pride in scrapping equipment in order to replace it with something more modern. More than one visitor from foreign lands has been astonished to see such apparent waste. The European manufacturer, we are told, finds pride in showing his visitor plant equipment that has served for many, many years. The older it is the more pride he exhibits. The American dairy products manufacturer, for instance, will almost apologize to a visitor for showing him equipment that is more than two or three years old. He gets his pleasure out of showing brand new equipment that has just been installed, and if he is a couple of jumps ahead of his competitor he beams all over. Call it extravagance, if you wish, or even waste, but the spirit of progress thus finds expression in what he does."

Oregon  
Agriculture

An editorial in The Oregon Farmer for June 11 says: "Oregon's increase in farm acreage-- 3,107,393 acres since 1920 and 2,518,864 acres since 1925-- have attracted national attention. The increase since 1925 is 18 per cent, the largest yet reported by any State; Colorado being second with 15 per cent, followed by North Dakota with 12, Utah with 10, and Kansas with 7. Values of land and buildings are also on the upgrade. War-time valuations of \$675,213,284 in 1920 dropped to \$618,068,770 in 1925, but mounted to \$632,303,277 in 1930. This increase of \$16,234,507 in the last five years is held to be definite proof that the farming industry is coming back. Money invested in farm machinery and equipment shows the same tendency. These items in 1920 were valued at \$41,567,125.





During the next five years they were deflated to \$35,642,615, but in the last five years new capital attracted to farming boosted this amount even above the 1920 figures, or to \$42,636,952. This increase of about \$7,000,000 is a very encouraging sign of farm improvement. In common with all States so far reported, Oregon shows a trend to larger and better financed farms. Acres per farm increased from 252 to 302. Utah farms increased from 192 to 207 acres; North Dakota, 451 to 495; Colorado, 416 to 482; Kansas, 262 to 283. This consolidation into larger, better operated farms accounts for the loss of 759 units during the last five years. However, for the 10-year census period Oregon showed a net gain of 4,946 farms....."

Rumania's  
Agricul-  
tural  
Machinery

The Near East and India for May 28 contains an article on the Rumanian market for agricultural machinery, taken from a report on the Rumanian market for agricultural machinery by the Commercial Secretary to the British Legation at Bucharest. This says: "Rumania is an agricultural country, and 80 per cent of her population are employed in farming. Twelve million hectares of land are plowed and cultivated, but only the larger landed proprietors who have from 200 to 1,000 or more hectares of land, make use of machinery and modern methods of plowing, etc., and since agrarian reform was carried out in the first years after the War, the greater part of the cultivated lands has passed into the hands of peasant proprietors who employ primitive methods. Moreover, at the present time, the agricultural community is in a very precarious condition owing on the one hand to the poor crops of 1927 and 1928, and on the other to the low prices obtainable for cereals in 1929 and 1930, when crops were good. It is therefore not in a position to make investments in machinery and implements. Nevertheless Rumania must be regarded as a future market of some importance, for as the general economic conditions improve, her requirements in agricultural machinery and implements must rapidly increase.....Hand-worked fans for cleaning grain, which are extensively used by the Rumanian farmers, are produced in sufficient quantities in this country to cover all home requirements. The annual sales of these machines are from 500 to 1,000, and the producing capacity of the manufacturers greatly exceeds these figures. Harrows and rollers are also locally manufactured and none are imported. Hand-worked food preparing machines, such as cutters and grinding mills are manufactured in Rumania, and, according to the registered statistics, insignificant quantities are imported. About 2,500 maize-shelling machines can be produced in this country annually, and the yearly requirements of the market are said to be between 1,500 and 3,000. The maize-shellors used in Rumania are hand-driven, though they could also be driven by motor power. The type of plow generally in use is that common in Central Europe, having the blades mounted between two iron wheels attached to a wooden pole to which horses or oxen are yoked; 15,000 of these plows can be produced locally each year, while the market requirements amount to 10,000 to 20,000 annually. Plows are imported from Germany and Czecho-Slovakia.....Threshing machines of a Hungarian type are manufactured locally in small quantities, but Rumania requires from 300 to 500 machines annually, and they are chiefly imported from Hungary, Austria, Germany, and recently a few from the United Kingdom.....Portable traction engines are very little used for agricultural purposes, but more for lighting, or pumping. Very few power chaff-cutters are in use, and no elevators are employed....."





Science  
and Human  
Factor

Nature (London) for May 30 says: ".....Labor has now come to realize, to some extent, not only that science is much more than mechanical invention, and that scientific research is continually responsible for creating new industries and fresh employment, but also that under modern conditions the application of scientific methods of thought to the control of industry is of the utmost importance. In spite of the fact, however, that applied science has eliminated from certain of our industries some of the grosser forms of labor which were formerly accepted as a matter of course, and that, contrary to prediction, hours of work have been decreased and not increased, the essentially humanizing influence of scientific thought and method in industry is still far from being appreciated. It is noteworthy, therefore, that in the scientific studies of management problems which are being carried out by the International Management Institute, the main object is to safeguard the human factor, and, instead of viewing man as a piece of mechanism, as in Taylor's system, to adapt the machine to the man. The selected subjects for research have included, for example, welfare devices, the selection and training of workers, and accident prevention. Efficient business management to-day and any true rationalization policy are invariably characterized by a careful study of the human factors, which are, indeed, regarded as of supreme importance. It is now widely realized that industrial efficiency can not be attained unless the conditions of work are such as to secure the health and intelligent interest and cooperation of the workers to the maximum extent....."

---

Section 3

Department of  
Agriculture

An editorial entitled "The Capper Award" in The New York Times for June 15 says: "When Ossian heard 'the call of years' he lamented that no bard would 'raise his fame.' But the great entomologist, Dr. L.O. Howard, whose middle name recalls the legendary Gaelic hero of the third century, needs no poet to sing his deeds in fighting for a half century the forces which 'constitute to-day our greatest rivals in the control of nature'-- the injurious insects. He has been recognized in a more substantial way; he has been awarded the Capper gold medal for distinguished service to agriculture, and through it to those who live by it or on its fruits. The award also includes an honorarium of \$5,000. No one in all the world better deserves such recognition than this entomological warrior in 'the oldest war in history,' between mankind and the insect myriads. The only hope that the human race has of winning is in uniting its scientific forces in research and attack, and in dividing the enemy-- encouraging conflicts among the insects themselves, even nourishing parasitic battalions in laboratories to prey upon other insects and so maintain a balance that will permit crops to grow, flowers to bud and blossom, trees to bear fruit and the 'higher' creatures to live and pursue happiness. Doctor Howard has been and is a master of such strategy in fighting these lilliputian enemies, which are much more experienced in the ways of this planet, having lived here, as he reminds us, 50,000,000 years, while man arrived barely 500,000 years ago, and are 'the most perfectly adapted of all creatures to live under all sorts of conditions.'... The award to Doctor Howard calls attention not only to his valiant service as a leader in this warfare, but also to the importance of the struggle in the agricultural world, where only the ingenuity of man can prevent the supremacy of the insect."

---





# Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

## Farm Products

June 15.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.08-.75; Cows, good and choice \$4.50-6.25; Heifers, (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25-8; Vealers, good and choice \$8.-9.50; Feeder and stocker cattle: Steers, good and choice \$6.-7.50; Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.90-6.90; Light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$6.60-7; Slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.35-6.85 (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations); Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8-9.25; Feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40-8.25.

Grain: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $78\frac{1}{2}$ - $81\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 2 red winter St. Louis 81-82¢; Kansas City no quotations; No. 3 mixed corn Minneapolis 48-49¢; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago  $56\frac{3}{4}$ - $57\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 50-51¢; St. Louis 57¢; No. 3 white oats Minneapolis  $23\frac{1}{2}$ - $24\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 27- $27\frac{1}{4}$ ¢.

Cobbler  
North and South Carolina/potatoes ranged \$2.25-3 per stave barrel in eastern cities; \$1.75-1.90 f.o.b. Elizabeth City. Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.65-1.75 per 100 lbs. carlot sales in Chicato; \$1.10-1.15 f.o.b. Mobile. Texas and California Yellow Bermuda onions ranged \$1-1.85 per standard crate and 50-lb. sack in consuming centers. Florida Tom Watson watermelons 24-30 lbs. average, \$400-525 bulk per car in New York City; \$250-350 f.o.b. Leesburg. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$2.25-2.75 per standard 45s in city markets; Perfectos 90¢-\$1 f.o.b. Brawley. Georgia Peaches, Uneddas \$2-3.50 per six-basket carrier, medium sizes in terminal markets.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets remained unchanged at 8.02¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 12.21¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange remained unchanged at 8.55¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange remained unchanged at 8.56¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score,  $22\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; 91 score, 22¢; 90 score,  $21\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ - $14\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 14- $14\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $14\frac{1}{4}$ - $14\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

(Prepared by Bu. of Agric. Economics)





# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

VOL. XLI, No. 66

Section 1

June 17, 1931

## PRODUCE RATES

The National League of Commission Merchants appealed to the railroads yesterday not to include perishable food products in their proposal for a 15 per cent increase in freight rates, according to the press to-day. The report says: "Robert F. Blair, of Cleveland, president of the league, in a letter to heads of the principal railroads, said the proposed increase would make transportation charges on some perishable foods 80 per cent of their original costs. He warned the increase probably would reduce tonnage....."

## EMPLOYMENT

### STABILIZATION BOARD

The press to-day says: "With D. H. Sawyer, New York consulting engineer, named director, the Federal Employment Stabilization Board yesterday was ready to begin operations. Sawyer's appointment was announced by Secretary Lamont.....The board will have as its duty advanced planning of Federal building work in an effort to prevent future unemployment peaks. It also is required to coordinate the work of States and municipalities with the Federal program and keep the President advised of current trends of construction so he may make recommendations to Congress in times of stress."

## MCKELVIE ON LONDON CONFERENCE

The Farm Board June 15 made public a detailed report submitted to it by Sam R. McKelvie, covering his participation in the recent conferences of the wheat exporting countries of the world, held at Canada House, London, May 18 to 20, 1931. The report says in part: ".....The meetings of the Conference of the Wheat Exporting Countries of the World were held en camera. The reason for this as expressed by Chairman Ferguson was to develop a full and free discussion. No observers were admitted. Communiqués were given to the press from time to time.....All in all the conference may be regarded as having been worth while. Largely speaking each country will have to approach the question in its own way. This is facilitated and expedited by conversations that lay bare the underlying facts. Acreage reduction is coming about in Australia, Argentina and Canada through sheer necessity. It will be hastened by a realization that there is no legerdemain by which such abnormal quantities of wheat can be disposed of at a profit to the grower. It is apparent that Russia is not so happy with her situation, and some of the Balkan States are looking to other crops than wheat. These are encouraging signs. The proposal to develop a clearing house of information has very good possibilities. Mr. Olsen will serve on the committee that will study this question. It looks to the development of more accurate information regarding acreage, crop conditions, out-turn and unloadings in import markets. Russia's approval of this proposal should mean that important information needed from that country will now become available, and, if it is, one of the most highly speculative elements in the market will have been removed. The form that the clearing house may take remains for the committee to recommend to the several governments....."





## Section 2

Economic Conditions      An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for June 15 says: "A recent compilation lists the most generally accepted causes of depression under fifteen group headings with quite a number of subheads. The reader, unless he becomes too bewildered by the array of causes presented for inspection, will soon realize that the alleged causes might, in a majority of cases, quite as logically be listed as effects of depression. The first cause on the list for example-- overproduction of basic raw material and agricultural products-- may be an effect of depression as well as a contributory cause. Undoubtedly many commodities have been produced in excess of amounts that could be sold at profitable prices even when times were good. Much so-called overproduction, however, at the present time would soon be converted into scarcity following a revival of demand of even moderate proportions.....Reduction in commodity prices, another listed cause of depression resulting in reduced purchasing power, may be alternatively either a cause or a consequence of depression. In short, much of our causal analysis applied to the phenomenon of depression proves upon close inspection to be little more than a description of the characteristic accompaniments of a period of depression. Attempts to find any single cause or group of causes that will satisfactorily explain the origin of the trouble and point toward a remedy are in fact futile... .."

Finland's Economic Situation      The economic strides made by the republic of Finland in the first four months of 1931 are revealed in a statement just received in New York from the Bank of Finland showing imports for the period of 933,400,000 Finnish marks and exports of 931,300,000, or a surplus of imports of only 2,100,000 marks, compared with an import surplus of 228,300,000 in the first four months of 1931. The republic, which has borrowed a total of \$50,000,000 in the United States since the war by means of four bond issues, has successively reduced this amount by more than \$3,000,000. Efforts of the Finnish Government to curtail its expenditures are set forth in figures covering the first three months of the year, which show a drop of 107,800,000 marks compared with expenditures in the same period in 1930. The drop of state revenues, however, was somewhat greater for the period, amounting to 170,100,000. (N.Y.Times, June 14.)

Ford on Economic Conditions      A Stockholm dispatch to the press of June 14 says: "'The depression is America recovering after prosperity,' said Henry Ford to a correspondent of the Stockholm newspaper, Dagens Nyheter in an interview given at his office in Dearborn, Mich., and added: 'The boom was artificial and was the result of Stock Exchange speculation by persons who expected to get rich without work. The crisis this time will not be so short as it was three years ago, but will remain and will effect healthier economical conditions. But, of course, the people will continue to try to earn easy money as long as their gambling lust is applied. No artificial means can help the economical illness. The only remedy is work and work again. Salary reductions, as against unemployment, would be a very comfortable solution, but that would also reduce the buying power of the great body of the people, which would make the situation worse...'..... Mr. Ford said that in his opinion even if industry should be mechanized to the utmost there would always be a need for the same number of workers because the new machines would always require new workers for their manufacture....."





Vermont  
Agricul-  
ture

An editorial in The Washington Post for June 12 says: "Any one who has the idea that agriculture in New England is dying out would be surprised upon investigation of the facts. Vermont used to raise turkeys and drive the flocks over the hills to Boston, more than 100 miles away. To-day fast milk trains carry 60 per cent of Boston's milk supply every day from the Green Mountains. Vermont farming produces results that amaze persons who have heard more about her abandoned farms than about the ones fitted with the latest electrical equipment. The State's farm products are valued at \$100,000,000 a year. The number of farmers in Vermont has decreased in the last ten years, but agricultural production has increased; and if that is not enough to establish the quality of her farmers let it be known that Vermont ranks first in New England and third among all the States in the yield of corn per acre. In the production of the six staple cereal crops the yield in Vermont is double the average for the country. Vermont produces annually over \$3,000,000 worth of maple sugar and sirup, supplies seed potatoes to many sections, and boasts the largest privately owned apple orchard in the world. But the dairy industry is the backbone of agriculture in Vermont. The 250,000 cows of the State supply annually 1,250,000,000 pounds of milk, a large percentage of which is marketed in fluid form. There are more cows per farm in Vermont than in any other State in the Union....."

Vocational  
Agricul-  
ture in  
California

An editorial in The California Cultivator for June 6 says: "Julian A. McPhee, chief, bureau of agricultural education, informs us that, starting July 1, the State department of education is to expand its program to include the agricultural department of the California Polytechnic School at San Luis Obispo. McPhee says that in general, the plan is to set up a real vocational agricultural education program at San Luis Obispo, headed by outstanding specialists in agricultural fields.....The work to be given at San Luis Obispo will be of a terminal character in agriculture.....Boys will be encouraged to attend, and they may stay six months, a year, or longer, depending upon the time necessary to train them in their chosen type of agriculture. The work given these boys will be on the project basis, and students attending the school will be able to pay part of their expenses through their profits in connection with this work."

Wheat  
Surplus

C. S. Burton writes on "Wheat and Cotton-- A Dilemma in Abundance" in The Magazine of Wall Street for June 13. He says in part: ".....As a ponderous factor against any curtailment in wheat production, a very large proportion of the crop of the world is grown upon land for which it would be very difficult to find any other adequate use. The steppes of Russia, the pampas of the Argentine, the ranches of Australia, the rolling prairies of our own country and Canada are ideal for the tractor, the gang plow and the combine-- ideal for the mass production of the world's major breadstuff. To the farmer, wheat means cash; he looks upon curtailment as something that should be good for the other fellow. Just as the industrial countries of the world have been steadily expanding their productive capacity in manufacture to an extent which has made it increasingly urgent to secure access to larger markets in order to keep down unit costs of production, even while the progressive industrialization of newer countries has, at the same time, diminished the desire of certain markets for their goods; so, in a sense, the world's production and distribution of wheat has been stepped up in similar tempo. Production was increased after 1913 to make up for the defection of Russia, as Europe's





former chief source of supply. Competition for markets has constantly grown keener, while the desire of all the wheat-importing countries has been and is to make themselves independent of such imports.....Russia's re-advent as a large producer of wheat is a matter of the last year only. In the past ten years, previous to last year, Russia's total wheat exports did not amount to so much as her annual average pre-war exports and her exports this year, which have caused such a prodigious amount of discussion, hardly exceed 10 per cent of the grain going into the world market. On the whole, production of wheat has run but slightly ahead of the increase in population, by no means far enough ahead to account for the present congested condition of the world market; further, also, per capita consumption has shown some increase almost everywhere except in the United States. To look forward; two factors seem most important, Russia's avowed intention to resume her pre-war place as the granary of Europe, and the natural unwillingness of the other wheat producing countries to surrender the markets which they have won while Russia was out of the field; secondly, the participation of the governments of the world....."

---

### Section 3

Department of  
Agriculture

The Prairie Farmer for June 13 says: "Dr. O. E. Baker of the U.S. Department of Agriculture presents some facts and ideas in a recent number of the Journal of Farm Economics that will help us to forecast the future trend of agriculture in this country. He calls attention to the fact that soil fertility is being wasted rapidly, but he does not look for any decrease in production from that cause in the near future. Crop rotation and fertilizers can rather quickly restore the productiveness of our good lands. The lands which have washed seriously can be put into pasture and forest, and we have plenty of pasture land that can be plowed up to take their place. Loss of soil fertility may increase cost of production, but it is not likely to cause reduced production for some time to come. The surplus of farm products, Doctor Baker says, is the result of the decline in the number of horses and mules, increasing production of milk and meat from a given amount of feed, and shifts to more productive crops and livestock. The birth rate is declining, and it is probable that unless we liberalize our immigration restrictions, the peak of our population will be reached in 1960, with about 160,000,000 people. After this there is likely to be some decline in population. This means that 30 years from now we will need 25 to 30 per cent more farm production, if we keep up our present volume of exports. This will require an annual increase in production less than that of the last 13 years, which has been about two per cent annually....."

---





# Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

## Farm Products

June 16. --Livestock prices in Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7-8.75; Cows, good and choice \$4.50-6.25; Heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25-8; Vealers, good and choice \$8-9.50; Feeder and stocker cattle: Steers, good and choice \$6-7.50; Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6-6.95; Light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$6.60-7; Slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.40-6.85 (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations); Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.75-8; Feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40-8.25.

Grain: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $78\frac{1}{2}$ - $81\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 2 red winter St. Louis 80-81¢; No. 3 mixed corn Minneapolis  $48\frac{1}{2}$ - $49\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago  $56\frac{3}{4}$ - $57\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $50\frac{1}{2}$ ¢- $51\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis  $57\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 white oats Chicago  $24\frac{1}{2}$ -26¢; Minneapolis  $23\frac{3}{4}$ - $24\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis  $26\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.

North and South Carolina Cobbler potatoes ranged \$2.25-3 per stave barrel in eastern cities; \$1.70-1.90 f.o.b. Elizabeth City. Alabama and Louisiana sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.50-1.65 per 100 lbs. carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.f.o.b. Baton Rouge. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions brought \$1-1.50 per standard crate and 50-lb. sack in consuming centers. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes closed at \$2.25-3 per standard crate of 45s in city markets; 90¢-\$1 f.o.b. Brawley. Florida Tom Watson water-melons, 24-30 lbs. average, \$400-520 bulk per car in New York City; \$200-350 f.o.b. Leesburg.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 26 points to 8.28¢ per pound. On the same day one year ago the price was 12.33¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 26 points to 8.81¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 25 points to 8.81¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score,  $22\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; 91 score, 22¢; 90 score,  $21\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ - $14\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 14- $14\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $14\frac{1}{4}$ - $14\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.  
(Prepared by Bu. of Agric. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

VOL. XLI, No. 67

Section 1

June 18, 1931

## FREIGHT RATE REQUEST

The railroads of the country, pleading a desperate financial situation because of the economic depression and also the competition of motor transport, waterways and air lines, filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission yesterday a formal petition for a blanket increase of 15 per cent in freight charges, according to the press to-day.

## TREASURY DEFICIT

The largest Federal deficit since the war yesterday presented a formidable front to an assault of income taxes crippled by the depression. In spite of an increase of \$8,000,000 in the red-ink total, Treasury officials maintained yesterday that the \$1,000,000,000 obstacle to a balanced budget will fall below President Hoover's estimate of \$950,000,000 before the financial year ends, on June 30. The increase was announced in a Treasury statement of accounts to the close of business June 15 and brought the total deficit to \$1,099,903,063. (A.P., June 18.)

## UNITED STATES POPULATION

A London dispatch to-day states that at yesterday's session of the International Union for the Scientific Investigation of Population Problems, Professor P. K. Whelpton said the population growth of the United States was rapidly declining. "The birth rate has been falling since 1921," he said. "The probability is that future families will be stabilized at three children. The white population is gaining slightly <sup>relative</sup> to the Negroes....."

## FRANCE PLANS FOREIGN WHEAT USE

A Paris dispatch to-day states that the Ministry of Agriculture yesterday authorized the raising of the percentage of foreign wheat in French flour from 25 to 30. The report says: "The decree will appear in to-day's official journal. Accompanying it will be a note explaining that it was prompted by the unfavorable weather conditions of the last two weeks which, it is thought likely, may retard the French harvest....."

## COFFEE PARLEY PLANNED

A Sao Paulo dispatch to-day states that the net result of the coffee congress thus far is the determination to create a permanent international coffee bureau to meet at Lausanne not later than July, 1932. This proposal was made by Ospina Perez, of Colombia. The report says: "Perez said Colombia was ready to cooperate as much as possible to relieve the Brazil coffee crisis without itself being called upon to make too great sacrifices. H. J. Duyvis has been called away from the congress by urgent business. Before leaving he said Holland favored the creation of an international coffee bureau, but he would not commit the government....."

## STOCK EXCHANGE

The New York Times to-day reports: "Transactions on the New York Stock Exchange fell short of the 1,000,000-share mark yesterday for the first time in a full five-hour trading session in four and a half years..."





## Section 2

America's  
"Creed"

The Wall Street Journal for June 17 says in an editorial review of President Hoover's recent address before the Indiana Republican Editorial Association: ".....Mr. Hoover made the closest approach to an acceptable statement of the American creed he has offered since the worldwide economic upset began. To the spring crop of capped and gowned schoolmen bleating challenges to the existing order and moaning for 'a plan,' President Hoover replied with his own version of 'an American plan' for the next twenty years. What he meant was, clearly enough, that the American people have been working according to their own flexible scheme of ideas for a century and a half; that it has worked marvelously well on the whole and may be expected to continue its successful evolution in the future.....In other words, any civilization must be indigenous to the human soil from which it springs. A designed and dictated central economic control among the Russians, more Asiatic than European in mentality, is the natural and even necessary successor to the ancient autocracy which decayed and disappeared. We shall continue to live and learn, but not by attempting some visionary and impossible transformation in the genius of the race....."

Babson on  
Business

Roger W. Babson sent a message to the convention of the Advertising Federation of America at New York June 16 in which he said: "..... Irrespective of what happens to the stock market in the next year, I am willing to stake my reputation, based on thirty years' experience (1) that business has seen its worst; (2) that although the change will be slow, it will be in the right direction; and (3) that within a reasonable time this country will again enter a period of marked prosperity. In short, statistics to-day point to another period of prosperity, the same as they three years ago pointed to the present period of depression....."

An editorial in The Washington Post for June 17 on "Babson's Forecast" says: "Roger W. Babson, who forecast the depression, now sees its end. He is willing to stake his reputation on his statement that business has seen its worst. Confidence arises out of the fact that conditions which pointed to a crisis in the unrestrained activity of 1928 and 1929 have now been altered and indicate a rising trend. It is significant that Mr. Babson made his forecast to the Advertising Federation of America, assembled in annual convention in New York. The public is not quite ready to accept his forecast at face value. But it will be remembered that the public took no notice of his warning that an economic shake-up was due. Public opinion always lags behind the actual turn of events. For this reason Mr. Babson addressed himself to the advertisers, the molders of public opinion in the commercial world....."

Industrial  
Develop-  
ment

Charles F. Abbott, managing director of the American Institute of Steel Construction, writes in Commerce and Finance for June 17 under the title "Ten Big Years Are Coming." He says in part: "If we could visualize the next 5 or 10-year period we would undoubtedly witness the greatest period of industrial development in all history. The electrical industry is on the verge of revolutionizing the whole process of manufacturing and distributing electricity. The natural gas industry, with all of its vast pipe lines, is bringing natural gas into the remote eastern cities and towns. The chemical industry by applied research is bringing into being many new industries as new processes are developed. The coal industry is making preparations to utilize waste materials by converting





them into electrical energy at the mines. Railroad systems are engaged in electrification programs. The aviation industry is in its infancy. It may and probably will accelerate the whole system of transportation. The proposed irrigation projects, including dams, will call for greater quantities of steel cement, and other building materials. The steel industry will take the lead in the great industrial development that is now before us.....What is true in the steel industry is true in most other lines. Temporarily there has been, of course, unemployment in most industries. Yet I note that something like forty-two million are still employed, or one-third more than were working in 1921....."

President's  
Employment  
Committee

Although signs of a better business condition were visible in several cities of the United States in early June, employment conditions for the country as a whole were little improved over the level of previous weeks, according to reports from twenty-two localities made public June 16 by the President's Emergency Committee for Employment, according to the Press of June 17. The report says: "The number of unemployed registered with the New York Police Department Unemployment Relief Bureau for the week ended June 10 was 72,507 as compared with 74,259 on June 3.....It was reported from Buffalo that though no definite change occurred during the week ended June 6, local business conditions were gathering momentum and construction projects offered a brighter outlook. ....A report from the Massachusetts Bureau of Labor and Industry stated that payrolls during May declined 2 per cent from April. Declines occurred in cotton, textiles, electrical, and foundry products. While an increase of 6 per cent was noted among employees of woolen mills, payroll totals dropped 7 per cent, according to the report. Positions filled by the Illinois Free Employment Bureau in Chicago during the week ended June 6 totaled 853, as compared with 885 for the previous week and 900 for the same period last year. Applicants for the week ended June 6 totaled 2,794 as compared with 2,322 for the previous week and 2,353 for the same period last year.

Vitamin D  
in Cow's  
Milk

Science for June 5, in a report of experiments carried out by scientists through the cooperation of the Walker-Gordon Laboratory Company and Columbia University, says: "While it has been demonstrated that diet may very markedly increase the quantity of vitamin D normally occurring in cow's milk, it is equally apparent that some antirachitic supplements may be utilized more efficiently than others by the dairy cow. Steenbock and coworkers state that they have evidence to show that the vitamin D in yeast occurs in at least two different forms. This may possibly account for the different effects produced by irradiated yeast, and irradiated ergosterol. On the other hand, inasmuch as Hart and coworkers demonstrated that eight ounces of cod liver oil were poorly absorbed by milking cows it might be argued that in our experiments the ergosterol dissolved in corn oil likewise was poorly absorbed. It should be pointed out, however, that in contrast to the large amount of oil fed by the Wisconsin investigators the largest amount received by any of our cows was 90 cubic centimeters, equally distributed in three gelatine capsules, one being fed every eight hours. Furthermore, when compared with each cow's ration of 30 pounds silage, 12 pounds of grain concentrate, 12 pounds of alfalfa hay and 4 pounds of beet pulp, it would hardly be expected that this small volume of oil would interfere with the absorption of vitamin D from the irradiated ergosterol dissolved in it. The fact that the vitamin D





potency of cow's milk can be increased at least 16 times by feeding is important; for in this way milk, with its high content and excellent proportions of calcium and phosphorus, can be made a still better food for the development of the skeletal system....."

---

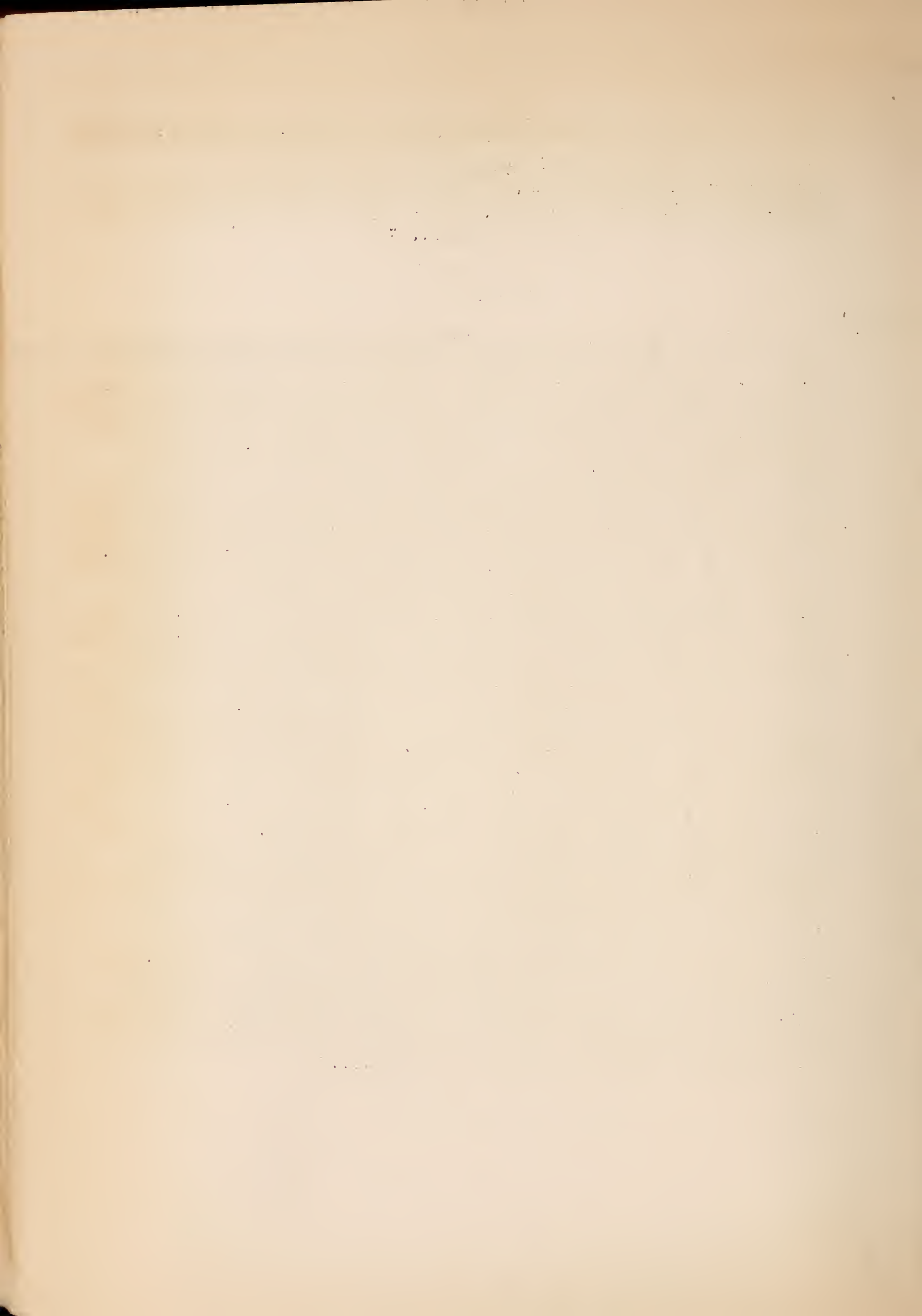
### Section 3

Department of  
Agriculture

Walden Fawcett, writing on "The Architectural Annex of the New Bureau of Agricultural Engineering," in Pencil Points for June, says in part: ".....Inasmuch as the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering distributes plans free to farmers who apply for them through their county agents or direct, selfish curiosity might prompt the question how the elevation and extension of this work is to benefit the everyday member of the architectural profession. A shortsighted answer might be composed in terms of the additional employment that will be provided for both senior and junior architects as the Federal and State Governments enlarge their 'plan services' and as additional political divisions (perhaps including the urban as well as the rural) allot money for this form of architectural first aid. In the larger aspect, however, the answer to the above question must be made in terms of the beneficial influence in behalf of a proper appreciation and valuation of architecture as a factor in rural life. It is probably only too true that, by and large, the architectural profession has not shown much interest in developing farm structures. Tradition has it that the small scattered units on the farms do not prove profitable from a professional standpoint. And, naturally, the majority of architects have not seen the necessity nor the warrant for specific training in the design of farm buildings.....On whichever side rests most of the blame for the mutual lack of understanding, the time is ripe for the forces of architecture to discover and explore the rural field. There are several separate and distinct signs which betoken the advent of a new era. Merely the normal percentage of annual replacement, on an investment of farm buildings estimated in the United States to aggregate \$11,750,000,000, should involve potential architectural demands well worthy of consideration in proportion as the rural population is increasingly educated in architectural taste and discrimination. But this obligatory, utilitarian replacement is the least of the factors to be counted upon for revolutionary influence within the next few years..... The new Federal bureau will have performed a constructive service for architecture if it does no more than lead the agricultural population away from a lack of standardization of housing requirements. This very lack has been responsible, in no mean degree, for such shortcomings as have heretofore existed in rural architecture....."

---





Section 4  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm  
Products

June 17, ---Livestock prices in Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7-8.75; Cows, good and choice \$4.50-6.25; Heifers, (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25-8; Vealers, good and choice \$8-9.25; Feeder and stocker cattle: Steers, good and choice \$6-7.50; Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.15-7.15; Light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$6.85-7.15; Slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75-8 (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations); Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.50-8.65; Feeding lambs, (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40-8.25.

Grain: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 77-5/8-80-5/8¢; No. 2 red winter St. Louis 80-81¢; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago 57 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 48 $\frac{1}{2}$ -49 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago 57 $\frac{3}{4}$ -58¢; Minneapolis 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ -51 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 white oats Chicago 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 23-7/8-24-3/8¢; St. Louis 26 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢.

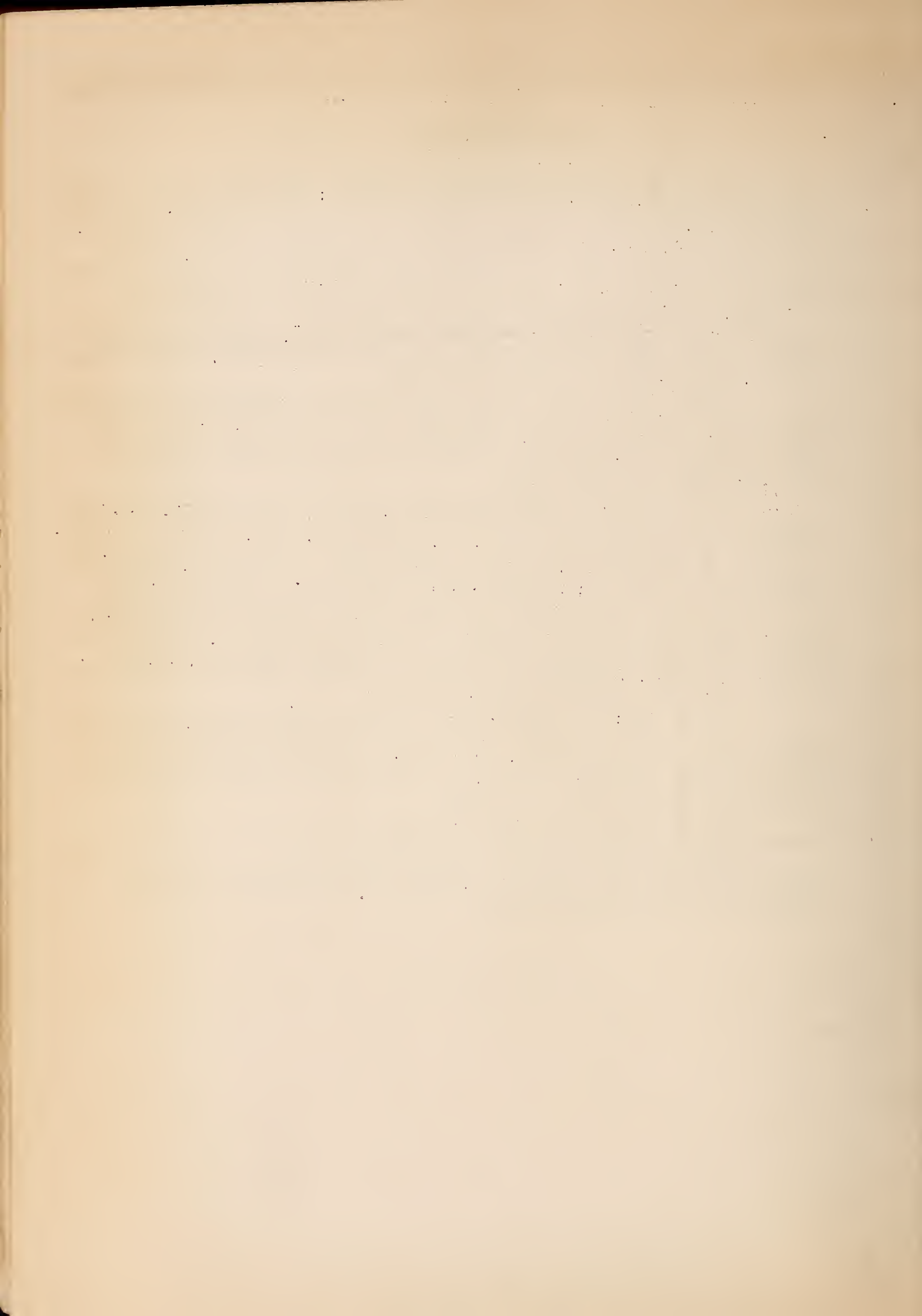
North and South Carolina Cobbler potatoes brought \$2.50-2.75 per stave barrel in eastern cities; \$1.75-1.90 f.o.b. North Carolina points. Alabama and Louisiana sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.50-1.60 per 100 lbs. carlot sales in Chicago; 90¢-\$1 f.o.b. Baton Rouge. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$2.50-3 per standard crate of 45s in city markets; mostly Perfectos \$1-1.10 f.o.b. Brawley. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions \$1-1.50 per standard crate and 50-lb. sack in consuming centers. Georgia Uneda peaches 50¢-\$1.25 per  $\frac{1}{2}$ -bu. basket in a few cities; 65¢ f.o.b. Macon. Florida Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 lb. average, \$365-465 bulk per car in New York City; \$175-325 f.o.b. Leesburg.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 5 points to 8.23¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 12.43¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 7 points to 8.74¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 7 points to 8.74¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 22¢; 90 score, 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 14-14 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ -14 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.  
(Prepared by Bu. of Agric. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

---

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

---

VOL. XLI, No. 68

Section 1

June 19, 1931

## THE SECRETARY ON DAIRY INDUSTRY

A Utica, N. Y., dispatch to-day states that Secretary Hyde yesterday urged dairymen to keep their production within the limits of domestic demand. Addressing 3,000 delegates and their wives at the meeting of the Dairymen's League Cooperative Association, he said that farmers would be helpless without tariff protection. The Secretary is quoted as having said, in part: "The vital point is that farming, having become an industry, must, perforce, conduct itself as an industry.....You are confronted at the moment by low prices, apparently the result of decreased consumption. Consumption will increase as soon as buying power picks up. We can not foresee the exact date of that happy event.....We can do two things. We can, in the first place, adjust production to consumption; we can, in the second place, use all available means to increase consumption.....It would be vain to attempt to balance domestic production to the market if foreign competition could enter on equal terms and take the market.....We know it to be a fact that the duty on dairy products has in recent years decreased imports and increased prices. It has been also a factor in minimizing the effect on dairying of the business depression. The benefits of the tariff, however, can be held only by keeping our production within the limits set by domestic demand."

Business for the last eighteen months has been experiencing many of the troubles which agriculture has had for ten years, said Fred H. Sexauer, president of the association, in his address. "We know, and have long known, that the future of industry and agriculture are bound together," he said, and went on: "For the last ten years that has not been a popular theory with industry. To-day it is again beginning to recognize the relationship. Experience has proved that industry and labor soon forget the sufferings of agriculture when they are sailing smooth water. While reaching out a helping hand, we of the farms must be sure that our own feet do not slip and we again put industry on a sound basis in two years and let agriculture suffer for another decade."

---

## FREIGHT RATES

The press to-day says: "Opposition to the proposed 15 per cent increase in freight rates developed yesterday in letters to President Hoover and the Interstate Commerce Commission. Several communications urging quick, favorable action on the petition of the roads also were received..... Many of the protests asserted that rates, especially on farm products, were already too high. Some predicted disaster both to business generally and the railroads if the commission grants the increase....."

---

## CANADIAN DUTIES

An Ottawa dispatch to-day says: "A motion to adopt the Bennett budget providing for radically increased rates on a number of articles affecting United States imports was carried in the House of Commons last night, 102 to 72. A no-confidence amendment offered by the Liberals and condemning higher tariffs, lack of employment and the agriculture policy, was defeated, 109 to 70....."

---





## Section 2

## Business

A St. Louis dispatch to the press of June 18 says: "A telegraphic survey of business conditions in the United States was announced June 17 by the National Retail Credit Association, in convention at St. Louis, as showing that business is only fifteen per cent below normal. The survey was made of 1,200 credit bureaus in the country and shows that in some parts of the country business exceeds the volume for last year, while in other sections it has dropped as low as seventy-five per cent of the 1930 total. For purposes of the general comparison 1924 was taken as a 'normal' year. Sidney R. Baer, St. Louis department store executive, quoted figures showing that the average American family owes nearly \$400 and said easy credit had resulted in consumers of this country hypothecating their future salaries to the extent of about \$10,500,000,000, or more than the world's gold circulation."

Dairy  
League  
Sales

A Utica, N.Y., dispatch June 18 says: "The Dairymen's League Cooperative Association, Inc., did a business of \$80,165,000 in the fiscal year ended March 31, a report presented by Fred H. Sexauer, president of the organization, at its annual meeting shows.....During the year the association enrolled 8,330 new members. There are now 47,790 participating members. They produced 2,793,866,306 pounds of milk, an increase of 170,181,000 pounds, or 6 per cent over the volume handled by the league the year before. The report shows that last year 21 per cent of the league's milk sales were in cities outside of the New York metropolitan area and that it sold milk to 307 distributors in 107 markets, an increase of thirty-four distributors in twenty-seven markets."

Everglade  
Develop-  
ment

An editorial in The Miami Herald for June 3 says: "Cuban interests look upon Florida Everglades as sugar producing area. Take options on 300,000 to 400,000 acres. If such a development becomes a fact it will be of utmost importance to this State. It will aid land values, encourage agriculture, and greatly expand the sugar industry. This follows success of Southern Company at Clewiston and Canal Point this year in producing 50,000,000 pounds of raw sugar at its mills. Revenue is expected to liquidate indebtedness. And this was accomplished with sugar at a low mark in price....."

## Prices

The index number of wholesale prices computed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor shows a decline for May. This index number, which includes 550 commodities or price quotations weighted according to the importance of each article and based on prices in 1926 as 100.0, declined from 73.3 in April to 71.3 in May, a decrease of  $2\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. The purchasing power of the 1926 dollar in May was \$1.403. Farm products as a group averaged  $4\frac{1}{4}$  per cent below April prices, due to decreases for corn, oats, beef cattle, hogs, sheep and lambs, poultry, eggs, cotton, alfalfa and clover hay, potatoes, and domestic wool. Rye, wheat, onions, and oranges, on the other hand, were higher than in the month before. Among foods further price decreases were reported for butter, cheese, fresh and cured meats, lard, dressed poultry, and sugar, resulting in a net decrease of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent for the group. Wheat and rye flour and coffee averaged somewhat higher than in April. Hides and leather products as a whole showed no change from the April price level, advances in hides and skins being offset by declines in leather. No change was reported for boots and shoes. In the group of



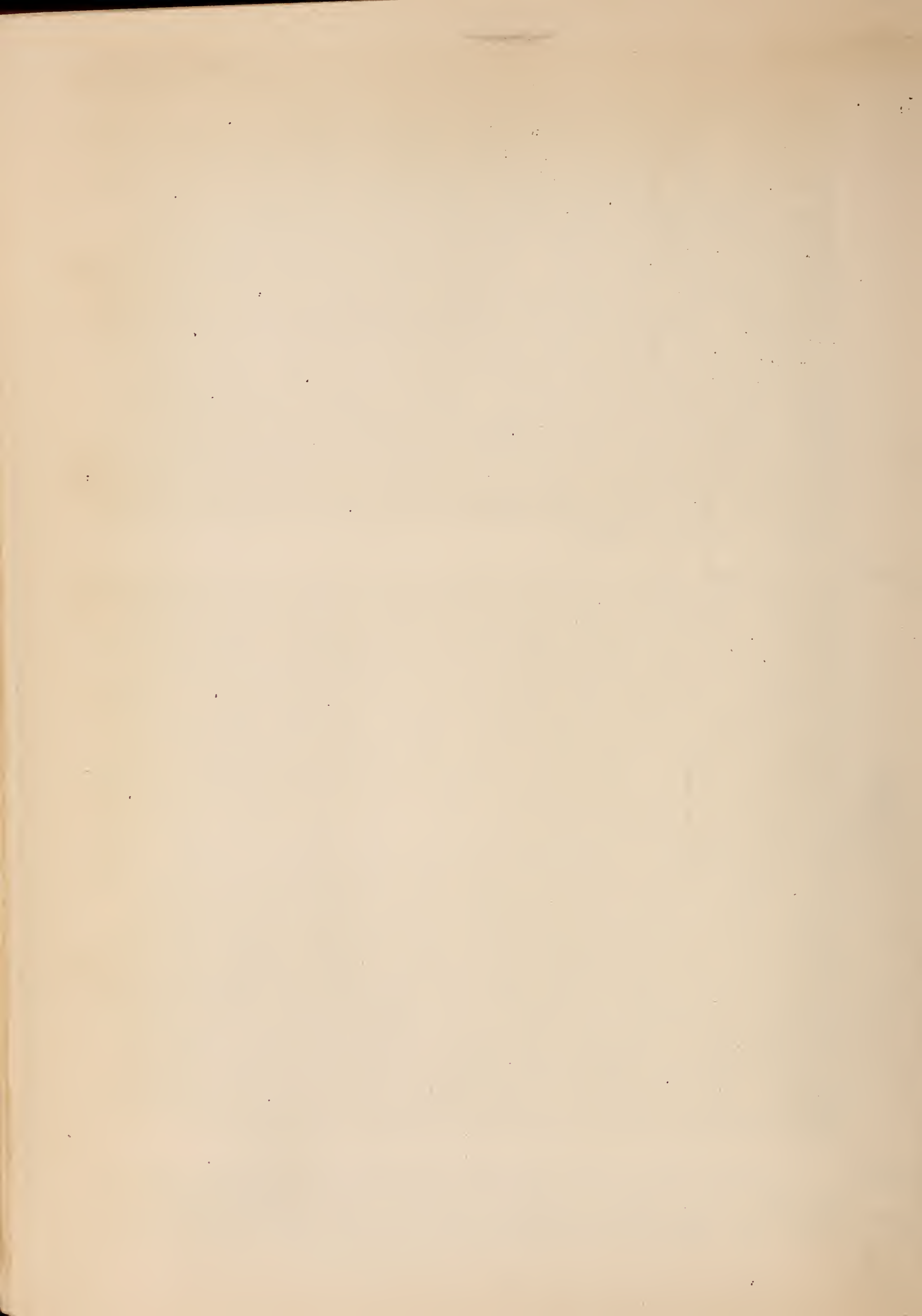


textile products further decreases are shown for cotton goods, silk and rayon, and woolen and worsted goods, causing a decline of 2 per cent in the group. Anthracite coal showed a slight advance over April, while bituminous coal declined. Petroleum products also declined, with lower prices for fuel oil and gasoline. Coke prices remained at the April level. Among metals there were slight declines in certain iron and steel products and noticeable declines in nonferrous metals, causing a decrease in the group total. In the building materials group a pronounced decline is shown for lumber, and small declines for brick, cement, and paint materials. The group as a whole decreased 3 per cent. Chemicals and drugs, including fertilizer materials and mixed fertilizers, moved downward in the month. Both furniture and furnishings in the group of housefurnishing goods showed price recessions in May. In the group of miscellaneous commodities, prices of cattle feed fell sharply, while paper and pulp declined slightly. Prices of crude rubber strengthened, while automobile tires were unchanged in price. Raw materials as a whole averaged lower than in April, as did also semimanufactured articles and finished products. In the large group of nonagricultural commodities, including all articles other than farm products, and among all commodities other than farm products and foods, May prices averaged lower than those of the month before.

Scandinavian June Wheat Study of the Food Research Institute of Stanford University  
Wheat discusses the wheat situation in Scandinavia. The study is summarized as follows: "During the past twenty-five years wheat has gradually displaced rye as the primary bread cereal in Scandinavia. Wheat production has increased while rye production has decreased; and net imports of wheat have increased while net imports of rye have declined. In Denmark and Sweden, at least, the demand for wheat and for rye appears to be quite elastic within the lower price ranges; for under appropriate price conditions larger quantities of the lower grades of these cereals are utilized as feed. There is no conclusive statistical evidence of extensive year-to-year substitution of wheat for rye or of rye for wheat, but statements of competent observers suggest that such substitution is common when price relationships justify it. About half of the wheat utilized in Scandinavia during post-war years was of domestic origin. Post-war average yields per acre of wheat were characteristically high, ranking in each of these countries among the ten highest recorded in the world. Most of the wheat (including flour) imported into Scandinavia during the past decade originated in North America. Norway took about half of her total net imports in the form of flour; Denmark took over one-third of her imports in that form; while in Sweden net imports of flour amounted to less than one-tenth of the total. Prices of native wheat in Denmark ruled fairly consistently below British parcels prices during post-war years. In Sweden and Norway, on the other hand, tariffs and other governmental measures kept prices of native wheat above British parcels. As in a number of other European countries, prices of native wheat in Denmark and Sweden showed a tendency to rise relative to the price of British parcels toward the end of each crop year."

Scientific Road Planning An editorial in The Washington Post for June 18 says: "For the last two years a group of experts has been studying highway problems in California. The survey, recently completed, called for 800 miles of new roads, with detailed recommendations as to upkeep. The report was sub-





mitted to the Legislature by the Governor, and the project was adopted a short time ago. This measure marks a great advance in State highway building. Where formerly roads were planned with a view toward political expediency in many cases, and frequently without regard to anything but the narrow desires of a circumscribed locality, this project takes into account the needs and interests of the entire State.....The plan covers a period of at least ten years. By studying the revenues of past years from motor vehicles, average gasoline consumption, etc., the commission was able to forecast the resources and needs of the increasing population. This intelligent planning by experts will save the State millions of dollars, besides doing away with politics in the location and financing the roads."

---

### Section 3

Department of  
Agriculture

An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for June 20 says: "The 1931 Capper Award for distinguished service to agriculture has been conferred on Leland Ossian Howard. Doctor Howard's name may mean little to the American public but his life work has benefited more or less directly the citizens of every civilized nation. As chief for more than thirty years of the Bureau of Entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture, and as an active entomologist for nearly two generations, he has been an able and well-beloved leader of man's war on insects. For years foreign nations have been heaping honors on him for what he has done to protect the human race from the pests that spread disease and destroy crops, livestock, and other property. He well deserves this additional honor from his fellow citizens. The annual Capper Award, which consists of a gold medal and \$5,000 in cash, was established in 1930 by Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas and is administered by a distinguished board of judges. The first to receive the honor was Dr. Stephen Babcock who invented the butterfat test which bears his name and made many other notable contributions to dairy science."

---





# Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

## Farm Products

June 18.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7-8.75; cows, good and choice \$4.50-6.25; Heifers, (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25-8; Vealers, good and choice \$8-9.25; Feeder and stocker cattle; Steers, good and choice \$6-7.50. Hogs, heavy weight (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.35-7.55; Light lights, (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25-7.60; Slaughter pigs, (100-130 lbs.) good and choice (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations) \$7.10-7.50; Sheep: Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.50-8.65; Feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40-8.25.

Grain: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) at Minneapolis  $75\frac{1}{4}$ - $78\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; No. 2 red winter St. Louis 79-80¢; No. 3 mixed corn at Minneapolis 47-48¢; No. 3 yellow corn at Chicago  $57\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 50-51¢; St. Louis 57- $57\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 white oats at Chicago  $25\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 23-5/8-24-1/8¢.

North Carolina Cobbler potatoes ranged \$2.50-2.85 per stave barrel in eastern cities; \$1.75-1.90 f.o.b. Elizabeth City. Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi Bliss Triumphs \$1.50-1.65 sacked per 100 lbs. carlot sales in Chicago; 90¢ f.o.b. Baton Rouge. Georgia Uneeda peaches, medium sizes, \$1.25-2 per six-basket carrier in the East; \$1.50-2 f.o.b. Macon. Florida Tom Watson watermelons, auction sales, \$400-475 bulk per car of 24-30 lb. average in New York City; \$150-300 f.o.b. Leesburg. California Salmon Wint cantaloupes \$2.75-3.50 per standard crate of 45s in consuming centers; mostly Perfectos \$1.15-1.25 f.o.b. Brawley. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions \$1-1.60 per standard crate and 50-lb. sack in city markets. California Yellow Bermudas \$1.65-1.75 in Boston.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 27 points to 7.96¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 12.72¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 27 points to 8.47¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 27 points to 8.47¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score  $23\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; 91 score,  $22\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; 90 score,  $22\frac{1}{4}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ - $14\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies,  $14\frac{1}{4}$ - $14\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $14\frac{1}{4}$ - $14\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.  
(Prepared by Bu. of Agric. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

---

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

---

VOL. XLI, No. 69

Section 1

June 20, 1931

## BUSINESS CONDITIONS

General business conditions in May showed more than the usual seasonal drop from the April level, this decline representing the first reversal since the opening of the year and wiping out a considerable part of the gains since then, according to the monthly report June 18 of the conference of statisticians in industry, operating under the auspices of the National Industrial Conference Board. The contraction has extended into the opening weeks of June, the survey added. (N. Y. Times, June 19.)

## FRUIT AND VEGETABLE COOPERATION

The board of directors of the newly formed National Fruit and Vegetable Exchange, Inc., organized by cooperative commodity marketing associations throughout the country to centralize the national merchandising of fruits and vegetables controlled by cooperatives, has just completed a four days' meeting at the offices of the Federal Farm Board in Washington. General managers and sales managers representing a number of the larger regional marketing associations participated in the conference. The board of directors of the National Fruit and Vegetable Exchange, Inc., announced following the conference that ample support had been pledged, in the way of tonnage, to warrant proceeding promptly with the opening of an office, which will be temporarily located in Chicago, to be in charge of an executive secretary with other necessary personnel and that the exchange would engage upon an active program for effecting its organization without further loss of time. The principal objective of the new National Fruit and Vegetable Exchange, Inc., is to form a national marketing outlet for grower-owned marketing associations handling fresh fruits and vegetables. The member associations will also be given assistance in standardizing cultural and packaging procedure.

## ILLINOIS MILK LAW

A Springfield, Ill., dispatch to-day says: "The pure-milk law passed by the General Assembly in 1923 was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court June 18. The Legislature of Illinois has not the power to enact a law prohibiting the use of coconut oil in combination with skimmilk, the court ruled in upholding an opinion of the Circuit Court for Montgomery County."

## LABOR TURNOVER

The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor to-day presents labor turnover rates for manufacturing as a whole and for ten separate manufacturing industries. The all manufacturing turnover rates are made up from representative establishments in 75 industries employing approximately 1,250,000 people. The total separation rate for industry as a whole for the month of May was 3.83, and the accession rate was 2.79. The highest accession rate, 7.97, was shown by the sawmill industry. Iron and steel had the lowest accession rate, 1.57. The highest quit rate in any of the ten industries for which separate figures are presented was shown by the brick industry which had a quit rate of 1.77. The lowest quit rate, .77, was shown by the foundry and machine shop industry.





## Section 2

California  
Raisin  
Marketing

An editorial in California Cultivator for June 13 says: "As the season progresses, there appears to be every indication that, despite leaf hopper damage which for a time threatened to eliminate the grape surplus, there will be more grapes than can be handled at a profit to the growers without some method of orderly distribution. Such control is made even more necessary this season than in years of greater production because of the fact that due to hopper damage the quality of the crop is likely to be below normal. To get maximum consumption, therefore, it will be necessary to exercise such control as will, so far as possible, prevent grapes of inferior quality going into direct competition in the markets with the better grades. The more of these low quality grapes that can be converted into by-products, the better chance growers will have to secure a profit on their good grapes. It would therefore seem that the 1931 grape program as outlined by the grape control board is more essential than ever and should be supported by every grape grower in the State. Briefly, the plan provides three steps in the control of the 1931 grape surplus which are: The withdrawal of the 1930 carryover of raisins on October 1 in a tonnage up to 30,000 tons or the equivalent of 120,000 tons of fresh grapes from any competition with the 1931 crop; the formation, in the raisin pool, of a surplus pool of raisins produced in 1931 in excess of what normal markets will take before the crop of 1932 is ready for market, and lastly, the delivery of 100,000 tons of fresh shipping table and juice grapes to fruit industries for conversion into by-products. It is estimated that a total surplus in excess of 400,000 tons of fresh grapes can be taken care of if all three steps in this plan are carried out...."

## Cooperation

An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for June 6 says: "Disagreement among farm cooperative associations sometimes suggests that farm groups themselves set the poorest example of cooperation. In fact, there is an urgent need for these agricultural agencies to learn and practice the lessons of loyalty, teamwork, and tolerance among themselves. They should all strive for the sound, constructive development of agriculture as a whole, rather than for selfish advancement. A lack of unity in the past has already caused serious delay to cooperative progress and general agricultural welfare. The voice of agriculture carries much more weight when it speaks for the great majority of its individual units. There is need now for organized agriculture to assert itself.....To head off unfair attacks on cooperative marketing a meeting was called in Chicago recently by the American Farm Bureau Federation, for the purpose of correlating all organized agricultural forces in a determined effort to preserve the Agricultural Marketing Act for the benefit of agriculture. The spirit of the meeting was voiced by C. E. Huff, president of the Farmers National Grain Corporation, when he declared, 'You can't save agriculture in sections.' The conference unanimously agreed that cooperative activity is the first and fundamental step toward securing economic equality for agriculture and that its development depends upon acceptance by the farm people themselves of cooperative principles. It recommended that a national campaign be launched by the various cooperative groups to sell the Agricultural Marketing Act to agriculture, and that from this a comprehensive national program for agriculture be developed. The plan is a commendable one. Agriculture will never make progress except through organization. Working in individual units or through small groups with varying objectives places agriculture at the mercy of organized industry and labor. We believe it is high time for farmers to wake up to the realization of these facts and lay plans for their own safety."





Iowa Experimental Farm

An editorial in Successful Farming for July says: "A group of Iowa farmers recently bought a farm to be used for experimental purposes. They feel the need of more information concerning the proper management of the soil types in their community. The work will be under the direction of men from the Iowa State College. Two most interesting comments are made by the men concerned. They point to the enormous sums spent by industry to solve its technical problems. The farm offers equally difficult questions. Besides a most excellent State experiment station, local laboratories are felt necessary. Equally important was the statement by one man that he had boys coming along who would soon be in need of information as to the way in which they could best make a satisfactory living from the soil. This indicates the father's confidence in the future of agriculture and the expectation that his sons will be farmers."

Meat Prices

An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for June 20 says: "When prices of livestock decline wholesale meat prices are usually in accord, but retail prices are not always reduced so promptly nor so much. This is natural, for it is human nature to get all the profit possible. But at best retail prices can hardly reflect all the decline in livestock and wholesale prices, for the retailer's fixed charges are pretty much the same on high-priced and low-priced meat and his volume of business is not subject to large variation at any time. This is true of ordinary retailers though not of all of them. We used to think that retail prices should and could follow wholesale and livestock prices promptly and fully, but after long enough and costly enough experience in retailing meats we are not so dead sure of some things as we were. In all probability the retailer knows some things about that business which are not so clear to the rest of us."

New York State Farms

The general decrease in the number and extent of the farms in New York State indicated by the 1930 farm census report on twenty-six counties, made public June 18, was further sustained by the figures on twenty-three other New York counties announced June 19 by the Census Bureau. The decline during the last ten years was greatest in Warren and Nassau Counties and least in Niagara of the counties reported. In Warren County the number of farms declined from 1,564 to 889, and in Nassau the reduction in farm acreage was from 59,353 in 1920 to 23,477 last year.

Rumanian Farmer Protection

A Vienna dispatch June 10 states that King Carol of Rumania has adopted drastic measures to protect the peasantry from usurious money lenders and speculators. Under a royal decree, reports of which have arrived in Vienna, peasants, who during the winter and spring sold futures on grain now being harvested, may have their contracts declared void by depositing with the local courts of law sums equivalent to the amounts they received, plus ten per cent interest. The report says: "The full importance of this decree is appreciated when it is realized that speculators have been taking advantage of the peasants, now in almost a semi-starved condition, and have obtained full title to their harvests on payments of fifteen or twenty per cent of the actual worth of the crops."





# DAILY DIGEST

---

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

---

Vol. XLI, No. 70

Section 1

June 22, 1931.

## THE PRESIDENT PROPOSES DEBT SUSPENSION

President Hoover, in a statement issued June 20, announced advocacy of a program for suspension of interest and principal payments on World War debts by allied nations to the United States for a period of one year beginning July 1, on condition of like postponement for one year of all payments on inter-governmental debts owing the important creditor powers. The proposal would cover German reparations payments and European relief debts, but not governmental obligations to private investors. This is the President's plan for relieving the economic and financial situation in Germany and other depressed countries. (Press, June 21.)

---

## GERMANY ACCEPTS PROPOSAL

A Berlin dispatch to-day states that the German government yesterday sent to Washington its official acceptance of President Hoover's proposal for a one-year moratorium on all intergovernmental debts. The report says, further: "It is expected in Berlin that Great Britain and Italy will accept the debt suspension forthwith and the hope is expressed that France also will join. France receives about \$192,000,000 a year from Germany, half of which must be paid for war debts, but official Germany hopes, nevertheless, that she will throw her support to the action initiated by Mr. Hoover. ..."

---

## FREIGHT RATES

Railroads seeking a general 15 per cent increase in freight rates were directed by the Interstate Commerce Commission June 20 to specify what commodities they intend to exclude from the proposed changes. Agricultural products were placed at the head of a list of commodities or which the commission asked this information. Farm leaders have expressed unqualified opposition to approval of the general increase. The data were requested by the commission in an order instructing the railroads to file bills of particulars within fifteen days. At the same time water carriers and rail lines not included in the original petition were given an opportunity to become parties to the case. (Press, June 21.)

---

## BANK INTEREST CUT

The New York Times to-day says: "As a result of uncommonly easy money conditions, particularly as reflected in the low yield on the recent \$800,000,000 bond issue of the United States Government, four of Manhattan's largest mutual savings banks have reduced their interest rate from 4 to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent, effective on July 1. This establishes the lowest savings bank rate in more than ten years. It is believed that the action of the four banks, announced yesterday, will be followed by similar reduction at some of the other savings institutions in Manhattan and possibly by a corresponding cut in other sections of the country...."

---

## TREASURY DEFICIT

The Federal deficit June 20 dropped to \$908,103,047, according to the press to-day. The report says: "The steady decline in the Treasury's debit total led officials to believe the year-end figure will be nearer \$850,000,000 than the previous administration estimates of \$950,000,000...."

---





## Section 2

Building  
Permits

According to reports received by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor from 342 identical cities having a population of 25,000 or over, there was a decrease of 19.5 per cent in the estimated cost of buildings for which permits were issued during May, 1931, as compared with the estimated cost of the buildings for which permits were issued during April, 1931. There was a decrease of 18.0 per cent in the estimated cost of new residential buildings, and a decrease of 20.9 per cent in the estimated cost of new nonresidential buildings, comparing permits issued during these two periods. The estimated cost of total building operations for which permits were issued during May, 1931, was \$130,398,526. New buildings for which permits were issued during the month of May, 1931, were planned to house 11,371 families. This is a decrease of 20.0 per cent in the number of family dwelling units, as compared with the month of April, 1931. Comparing permits issued in 295 identical cities in May, 1931, and May, 1930, there was a decrease of 27.6 per cent in total construction, a decrease of 18.3 per cent in the estimated cost of new residential buildings, and a decrease of 30.2 per cent in the estimated cost of new nonresidential buildings. The number of family dwelling units provided decreased 12.5 per cent, comparing May, 1931, permits with May, 1930 permits.

Canadian  
Farm  
Credit

An Ottawa dispatch states that within a few weeks the organization of the Dominion Agricultural Credit Co. will be completed, E. W. Beatty, president of the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., told the Canadian House of Commons committee on banking and commerce June 17. Designed to assist farmers diversifying their operations, the plan, Mr. Beatty said, was inspired by agricultural credit corporations which had functioned with success in Minnesota and other Northwest States. About half the \$5,000,000 capital of the company has been subscribed.

Corn Belt  
Conditions

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for July says: "An attitude that is nationally important is noticeable in the Corn Belt. It might be described as a 'stiffening of the backbone.' Not exactly a cheerful feeling but a more confident one. It grows out of a conviction, becoming rather general, regarding the nature and eventual effects of the present depression. This conviction was summed up pretty well by a northwestern Iowa country banker. 'We have come to the conclusion,' he said, 'that this depression represents a readjustment of the whole economic level. After the war we all got on a plane of costs and expenditures, both public and private, that was too high and could not be maintained. Farming was forced down first and for that reason has suffered severely because it was so long out of line with the other elements in our economic system. Now we feel, for the first time, that the others are coming down too. Before this settling process is completed we expect to see the various items that enter into the prices of things that we buy and the costs of distributing what we sell liquidated until something like a balance is struck again. What it amounts to is simply the restoring of a more proportionate footing for the common exchange of goods and services among us all. When it is worked out we will be in a position for another period of prosperity, more lasting because its foundations will be sounder. And it should be one in which farming will share with the other elements of the





population.' The Middle West, particularly that part of it interested in agriculture, feels that it is the nearest through the liquidation process. The debris of the land inflation boom and collapse is pretty largely cleared away. The use of credit in this year's farming operations is the lowest in years, due partly to the shrinkage in borrowing capacity and partly to more stringent banking requirements. It is generally agreed that because of this, together with the reduced labor costs and a present tendency to personal economy, this year's crops will be made at the lowest cost of any since the war. No one expects the present low prices of farm products to continue indefinitely. In fact, some of the ablest and best informed observers feel that an upturn in some farm products is certain before this year is ended. But the Middle West has tightened its belt for whatever circumstances may intervene before the period of readjustment has run its course. The fact that it believes this readjustment will result in more favorable conditions for its basic industry, agriculture, has given it new heart and resolution. Whatever they may think about this viewpoint, it is of paramount interest to people in other parts of the country."

Income  
Losses

A Chicago dispatch June 19 says: "An income loss to American investors of \$426,210,185 has resulted from dividend reductions and omissions since January 1 last, according to analysis prepared by Frazier Jelke & Co. Dividend omissions and reductions by leading corporations in the United States in May created a further shrinkage of \$70,901,781 in the investing public's income, the report said. In the month 125 leading companies omitted or reduced dividends, bringing to 760 the total of concerns acting adversely on disbursements in the first five months of 1931."

Keynes on  
Situation

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for June 19 says: "Those who insist that the American wage scale must be maintained at its pre-depression level, despite the fact that portions of it have already sunk distressingly below that slightly plateau, will be delighted with the position taken by Prof. John Maynard Keynes, the English economist, in his lectures here. Summarizing briefly, Professor Keynes holds that the way out of depression is to restore commodity prices to a level which will support the vast credit structure--in other words, the mass of public and private indebtedness--which has been built up through the past two decades. Wage maintenance he regards as part and parcel of such restoration, with the further justification of 'social justice and expediency.'....Professor Keynes by no means exaggerates the seriousness of universal indebtedness in its relation to falling, or fallen, commodity prices. Security markets are registering the consequent loss of much former capital value, though possibly there has been exaggeration there. Professor Keynes admits that liquidation is the normal sequence of an era of great construction on an inflated price level, but protests that we do not have to accept that tendency 'fatalistically.' More pertinent is the question whether we have to accept it in fact, whatever the state of mind it engenders."





Nebraska's  
Position

An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for June 13 says: "We are at the cross-roads leading to great economic changes in the development of industry and agriculture in the Middle West. Within ten years changes may take place in Nebraska which even the most visionary of us would not now contemplate. On the one hand agriculture is facing the problem of improving its condition through some readjustment in its production program, through broader and better markets and the processing of its products nearer the source of production, with less waste in distribution and excessive freight hauls. On the other hand, there is a definite trend in some types of industries for expansion and relocation nearer the source of raw products, when the conditions for labor, capital, transportation and markets are favorable. To keep abreast of the changes that may occur and be able to adapt industry and agriculture to them is a job with which we should all concern ourselves. ...Some weeks ago there was formed an organization known as The Nebraska Association, whose purpose is to help develop the industrial, commercial and agricultural life of the State. This new organization will solicit membership and financial support among all groups. It plans to engage in constructive surveys, research and publicity that will set forth the State's resources and show what new types of industry, agriculture and business may be profitably established. Nebraska is favorably located for many developments of this kind. Already our manufacturing products are worth almost as much as those of agriculture, but we are still shipping out of the State vast amounts of raw products which might be enhanced in value by processing or manufacture in the State. This would enlarge the agricultural market, provide employment for more people, increase the amount of wealth, and make Nebraska a better place to live...."

---





### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

June 19.--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$8.75; cows, good and choice \$4.25 to \$6; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$8.50; vealers, good and choice \$8 to \$9.25; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$6 to \$7.40; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6 to \$7.25; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.15 to \$7.50; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.10 to \$7.50 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.50 to \$8.65; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40 to \$8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $73\frac{3}{4}$  to  $76\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 79 to 80¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 57 to  $57\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $48\frac{1}{2}$  to 49¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago  $56\frac{1}{2}$  to  $56\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $50\frac{1}{2}$  to  $51\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 57¢; No.3 white oats Chicago  $25\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $23\frac{3}{4}$  to  $24\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis  $25\frac{3}{4}$  to 26¢.

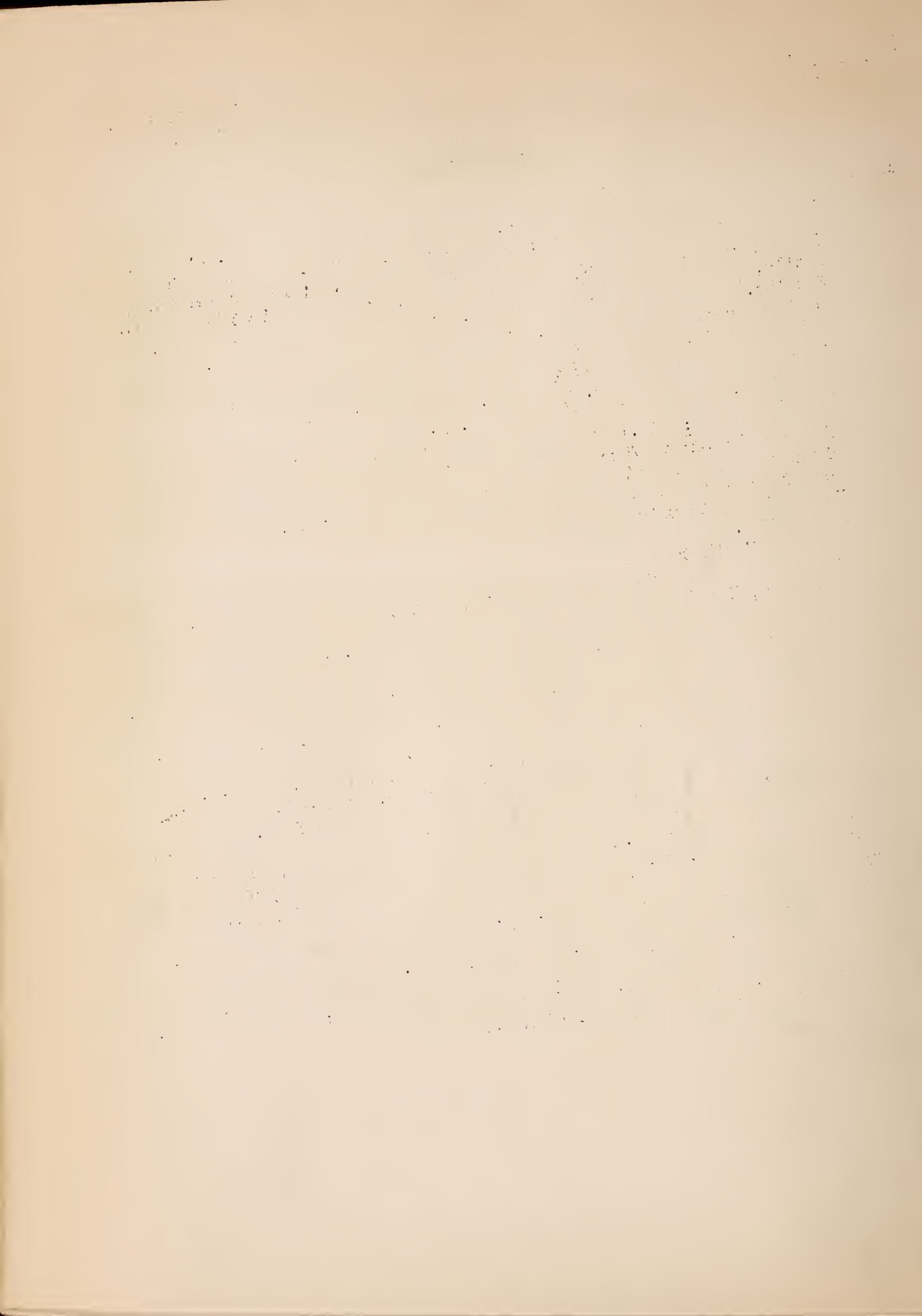
North Carolina Cobbler potatoes brought \$2-\$3 per stave barrel in eastern cities; \$1.75-\$1.85 f.o.b. Elizabeth City. Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Arkansas sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.45-\$1.55 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; 90¢-\$1 f.o.b. Fort Smith, Arkansas. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions ranged \$1-\$1.75 per standard crate and 50-pound sack in consuming centers. California stock \$1.65-\$1.75 in Boston. Florida Tom Watson watermelons \$445-\$545 bulk per car of 24-30 pounds average in New York City; \$150-\$300 f.o.b. Leesburg. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$2.75-\$3.50 per standard crate of 45 melons in city markets; Perfector and Hales Best \$1.25 f.o.b. Brawley. Georgia Uneda peaches, medium sizes, \$1.75-\$2.50 per six-basket carrier in New York City; Early Rose \$3 in New York.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 25 points to 8.21¢ per pound. On the same day last year the price stood at 12.82¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 23 points to 8.70¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 25 points to 8.72¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score,  $22\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 22¢; 90 score,  $21\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  to  $14\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 14 to  $14\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $14\frac{1}{2}$  to  $14\frac{3}{4}$ ¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr.)





# DAILY DIGEST

---

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

---

Vol. XLI, No. 71

Section 1

June 23, 1931.

## NORTHWEST DROUGHT AID

The press to-day says: "Secretary Hyde moved yesterday to extend financial assistance to Northwest drought States through credit corporations. He dispatched a special representative, John G. Brown, to the drought area of the Northwest to confer with representatives from the counties most seriously affected by the 1931 drought. With reference to available means of relief, Mr. Brown will present at these meetings an outline of the facilities available for assisting in the capitalization of agricultural credit corporations, livestock loan companies and similar organizations. According to reports supplied the Department of Agriculture, the most serious damage is confined to a group of counties in northwestern North Dakota and northwestern Montana, where livestock production has been increasing in recent years....The Department of Agriculture will make loans to individuals for purchasing stock in agricultural credit corporations and livestock loan companies where the local community subscribes for 30 per cent of the capital stock. Organizations of this character, where acceptable security is offered, are able to rediscount agricultural production loans with Federal Intermediate Credit Banks in an amount varying from 5 to 7 times the capital stock of such organizations. Since the chief demand for emergency credit at this time is for feed for livestock, Secretary Hyde feels that a large percentage of these farmers can offer in their livestock security acceptable to Intermediate Credit Banks which would entitle them to credit through these agricultural credit corporations or livestock loan companies."

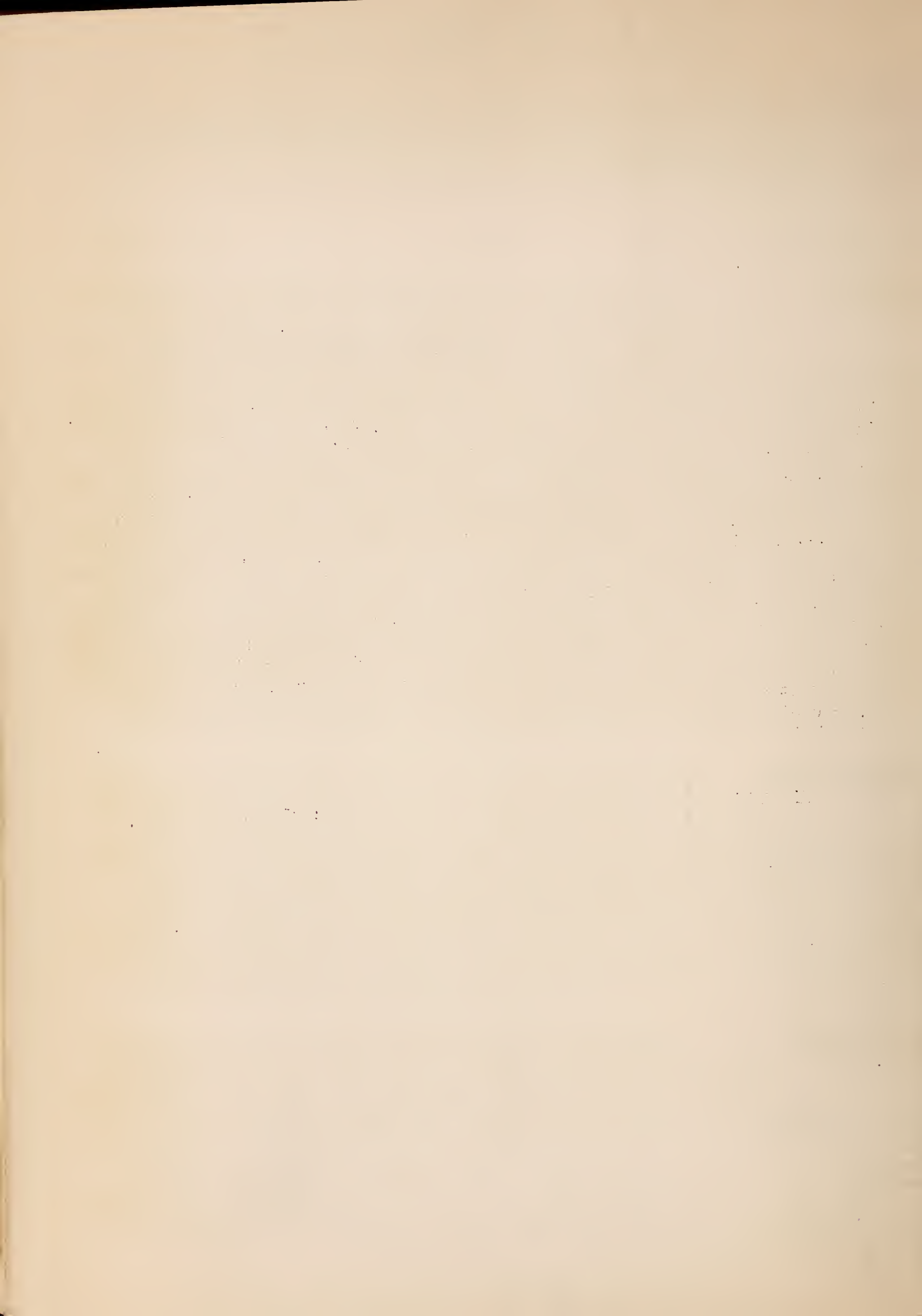
## THE STOCK MARKET

The New York Times to-day says: "Led by New York, tremendous buying enthusiasts swept over the security and commodity markets of the world yesterday in response to week-end developments reflecting the favorable reception of President Hoover's proposal for a one-year moratorium on war debts and reparations. The world-wide advance in prices added billions of dollars to open market values, with stocks, bonds, grain, cotton, sugar, silver and lead in heavy demand. The New York stock market, extending its recovery of Saturday, was the focal point for Wall Street's optimism. Leading issues made net gains of from 3 to 9 points in the heaviest trading in four months. Transactions on the Stock Exchange involved a total of 4,600,000 shares...."

## RURAL LIBRARY GRANT ASKED

A New Haven, Conn., dispatch to-day states that a resolution urging Congress to provide \$100,000,000 for rural libraries was adopted by the executive council of the American Library Association in session at New Haven yesterday. The report says: "Forty million Americans are without library service, Dr. Adam Strohm of Detroit, president of the association, stated in his address at the opening of the association's convention last night. He asserted that the library penetration was needed to countenance the influence of the radio and the movies. The executive council's resolution advocated the appropriation by Congress of \$100,000,000 as an equalizing and stimulating fund for rural public library service to be expended over a ten-year period...."





## Section 2

Farm  
Council

J. Sydney Cates, writing under the title "Fifty Men of Genesee," in The Country Gentleman for July tells the story of this group's endeavor to increase farm profits. The author says in part: "A group of fifty Genesee County farmers up here in western New York have started an innovation which it seems to me is destined to spread to other farms all over America. Genesee farmers have made up a pool--not of commodities, in an effort to bull the market and cut down sales cost, but a pool of that more intangible though no less valuable asset known as farm experience. Graded and packed, and certified by experts over at Cornell University, the experience of every man on every enterprise on his farm goes down in black and white and is made available to every other man in the group. Each contributor not only gets back forty-nine other contributions, but gets the whole picture--giving analysis of the fifty farms of the group. These Genesee farmers are in effect putting the meter on leaks and on earnings, enterprise by enterprise, and method by method. Since this scheme has been in effect, losing ventures and wasteful methods have been rogued out to an unheard-of degree. To-day Genesee farm enterprises and methods of conducting them are rapidly being standardized on the basis of the best that anybody in the community has developed. The plan begins with farm cost accounting, but this is something far more than a simple cash-account record. When the books are summarized at the end of the year the cost of every product of the farm is worked out both in dollars and cents and in terms of hours of labor. The next step--and this is what makes the plan uniquely valuable--involves taking what an individual farmer has accomplished and comparing with the best showing any of his neighbors have been able to make on the same project...."

Farm  
Dollar

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for June 13 says: "Money is only a representative of the value of some commodity. One can neither eat nor wear it. It may be exchanged, however, for labor or service, or for food, clothing, transportation, or any of the necessities or luxuries for which we have a desire. We are in a period of low prices for farm products. There is not much to encourage the hope that there will be a material improvement in the market for grain, cotton, or other farm commodity. Therefore farmers should turn their attention to bringing about, if possible, an equalization of values of what they have to sell and what they have to buy. Not only should farmers do this, but it is to the interest of those engaged in other industry. If a farmer can buy a suit of clothes for 15 bushels of wheat, it makes no difference to him whether wheat is \$1 a bushel or only 50 cents; but when it takes 30 bushels of wheat to buy the same suit of clothes that he formerly purchased for 15, then his dollar has shrunk as a medium of exchange by just one-half. The injustice of the present economic situation is found in the fact that when a farmer gets hold of a dollar it will not buy as much as it would in the hands of other persons...."

Food  
Prices

Retail food prices in 51 cities of the United States, as reported to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, showed an average decrease of a little less than 2 and one-half per cent on May 15, 1931, when compared with April 15, 1931, and an average decrease of about 19 and one-third per cent since





May 15, 1930. The bureau's weighted index numbers, with average prices in 1913 as 100.0, were 150.1 for May 15, 1930, 124.0 for April 15, 1931, and 121.0 for May 15, 1931. During the month from April 15, 1931, to May 15, 1931, 35 articles on which monthly prices were secured decreased as follows: Butter, 11 per cent; strictly fresh eggs, 9 per cent; oleomargarine, 7 per cent; cheese, 6 per cent; lard, 5 per cent; plate beef, corn meal, and bananas, 4 per cent; chuck roast, hens, evaporated milk, flour, pork and beans, canned peas, canned tomatoes, and coffee, 3 per cent; rib roast, sliced bacon, fresh milk, rolled oats, wheat cereal, macaroni, navy beans, canned corn, sugar, and raisins, 2 per cent; sirloin steak, round steak, sliced ham, canned red salmon, cornflakes, rice, and tea, 1 per cent; and leg of lamb and vegetable lard substitute, less than five-tenths of 1 per cent. Three articles increased: Onions, 28 per cent; oranges, 15 per cent; and pork chops, 1 per cent. Four articles showed no change in the month: Bread, potatoes, cabbage, and prunes.

#### Green Leaves

An editorial in The Journal of the American Medical Association for June 20 says: "The current enthusiasms for the inclusion of green vegetables in the diet of adults and of children in particular finds its scientific justification in the content of inorganic elements and vitamins that these plant products are supposed to provide....Green leaves are as a rule rich in vitamins A, B and C--all essentials of nutritive well-being. The reason for the traditional custom of eating greens has thus been disclosed. The greenness of many edible plant products is a variable that depends on several environmental factors, and sunlight in particular. Vitamin A seems to be associated in some way with the greenness; that is, with the relative development of chlorophyll in the plant. Dry seeds and etiolated plants are as a rule poor sources of vitamin A. The green shoots from the same starting materials are usually richer in this factor. Green cabbage exhibits a higher content of vitamin A than white cabbage; mushrooms that thrive in the dark lack abundance of vitamin A. There is little reason to doubt, as Sherman and Smith have pointed out anew, that the green plants of the water as well as those of the land synthesize vitamin A or its precursor under the influence of sunlight. Such a development in the small green plants of the sea presumably becomes the source of the abundant supplies of vitamin A that occur in cod liver oil; the cod, it will be remembered, has little fat elsewhere in the body...."

#### International Credit

An editorial in The Wall St. Journal for June 22 says: "...Lasting relief for the overstrained international credit structure is a matter of many months. Nevertheless, President Hoover's announcement that he has invited the cooperation of party leaders in these relief measures and that they have so far responded in a gratifying manner, can hardly fail of immediate results of the first importance. It will bring not only the beleaguered Brüning government but all bankers, industrialists and wage earners of Europe a fresh access of faith that there is a way out--that help is on the way. It may sound commonplace, but it is still true that in any emergency of the nature and scope of this one, confidence based on realities is the first requirement. Given that, temporary but serviceable bridges across the abyss become almost a matter of detail. Already the participation of the New York Federal





Reserve Bank in temporary assistance to Austria suggests what may be done on a larger scale to tide Berlin over. Whatever the precise course that events in the international field may take, one thing is assured. The United States Government has now set its hand to the plough and must finish the furrow without looking back."

---

### Section 3

Department  
of Agriculture

An editorial in The Washington Farmer for June 11 says: "How we overlook what scientific workers do for us! Every time we see an insect or a pest it should serve to remind that some one has spent countless patient hours trying to study its life habits so that agriculture can be protected against its ravages. Too often we think slightingly of this important work. Yet perhaps no one labors more conscientiously than the scientist. Too often we demand an immediate 'control,' and when the cut and dried instructions are not forthcoming at once we begin to carp...Little is it realized that for every standard 'remedy' or control measure which we now use in the protection of our crops or animals, long hours of research work first had to be done to solve mysteries that would baffle the best detectives. Even after the life cycle of our hidden enemies is learned, then many experiments are required to find the weak spots so that extermination will become effective. Let's give our scientists some humble thanks!"

---





Section 4  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm  
Products

June 22.—Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$4 to \$6; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$8.50; vealers, good and choice \$7.75 to \$9; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$6 to \$7.50; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.40 to \$7.40; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$7.50; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$7.50 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.50 to \$8.65; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40 to \$8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 68 $\frac{1}{4}$  to 71 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 79 to 80¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City 65 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 58¢; Minneapolis 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 51¢; Kansas City 51 to 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 58 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 53 to 54¢; St. Louis 78 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 53 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 54 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 27 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 25¢; Kansas City 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 27¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes brought \$1.50-\$3 per stave barrel in the East; \$2 f.o.b. Eastern Shore. North Carolina Cobblers \$1.50-\$2.75 in eastern cities; \$1.50-\$1.65 f.o.b. Elizabeth City. Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mississippi sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.50-\$1.60 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; 95¢-\$1.05 f.o.b. Fort Smith, Arkansas. Georgia Uneeda peaches medium sizes, \$1.25-\$2.25 per six-basket carrier in terminal markets; Early Rose \$2.50-\$3 in New York City. Texas and California Yellow Bermuda onions ranged \$1.15-\$2 per standard crate and 50-pound sack in consuming centers. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes brought \$2.75-\$3.50 per standard crate of 45 melons in city markets; Perfectors and Hales Best 85¢-\$1 f.o.b. Brawley and Honey Balls \$1.15-\$1.40. Florida Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average \$440-\$600 bulk per car in New York City; \$175-\$300 f.o.b. Leesburg.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets advanced 69 points to 9.11¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 12.29¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 69 points to 9.58¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 67 points to 9.58¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 23¢; 90 score, 22 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{4}$  to 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).





# DAILY DIGEST

---

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

---

Vol. XLI, No. 72

Section 1

June 24, 1931.

## BRITAIN ACCEPTS DEBT PLAN

A London dispatch to-day states that Great Britain's formal acceptance of the principle underlying President Hoover's offer of a one-year moratorium on war debts and reparations was cabled yesterday to Sir Ronald Lindsay, British Ambassador to the United States, for presentation to Secretary of State Stimson.

## RAIL RATE PARLEYS

The press to-day reports that following the invitation of the Interstate Commerce Commission for cooperative action on the railways' proposal for a 15 per cent increase in freight rates, joint conferences of representatives of State railroad commissions in the country's four rate groups were called yesterday by H. H. Hannan, president of the National Association of Railroad and Utilities Commissioners. The conferences will be held on July 7. Representatives of the commissions in the eastern group will meet at Washington. Representatives of the southern group will confer at Atlanta, Ga.; the western group at Kansas City, and the Mountain Pacific group at the offices of the Utah Public Utilities Commission at Salt Lake City. Meanwhile, the report says, railway executives are concerning themselves with the reply they will make to the Federal commission's order for additional information on the proposed increase.

## C. HART MERRIAM WINS ROOSEVELT MEDAL

The New York Times to-day states that James R. Garfield, president of the Roosevelt Memorial Association, announced yesterday that the 1931 winners of the Roosevelt Medals for Distinguished Service were Chief Judge Benjamin N. Cardozo of the <sup>N.Y.</sup> Court of Appeals; Dr. C. Hart Merriam, naturalist, physician and founder of the United States Biological Survey, and Hamlin Garland, novelist, dramatist and "historian of the Middle Border." C. Hart Merriam, says the announcement, "receives the Roosevelt Medal for distinguished service in the advancement of the study of natural history. He founded the division of ornithology and mammalogy in the Federal Department of Agriculture in 1885 (later called the United States Biological Survey) and, as its chief for twenty-five years introduced methods of research and study which constitute the basic structure of the present school of American Mammalogy, regarded by scientists as the most advanced in the world. He brought the study of natural history out of the laboratory into the open spaces of field and wood and sky...."

## BRITISH LAND TAX VOTE

A London dispatch to-day states that the MacDonald government was saved from defeat in the House of Commons last night by seven votes in a division on a Liberal amendment to the land-tax section of the finance bill. The report says: "The Liberals wanted gardens, playing fields and similar open spaces exempted from the tax, but the government, while willing to agree to certain exemptions, objected to any amendment which would have lifted the tax from race courses and polo fields...."





## Section 2

Books for  
Rural Sec-  
tions

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for July says: "The campaign to provide books for country people has been slow to gain headway in many communities because voters and county officials fear that the establishment of rural library service would necessitate a substantial increase of already burdensome tax rates. But within the past few years, a new library plan, one of whose chief tenets is thrift, has been devised and is now being used with remarkable success in many localities throughout rural America....The plan is simple. Instead of establishing an independent county library, the county officials arrange a contract with the public library in the county-seat town; the county pays something toward the operating and maintenance expense of the library, and the library in turn furnishes books to rural people on the same basis as it does to town folks. Thus the county avoids a large initial outlay for books; and usually the town library is willing to provide service to the county on remarkably lenient terms....Furthermore, the county's contribution to the support of the library often makes possible a gradual strengthening and expansion of the institution, so that in the end town folks are also better served. It is estimated that between two-thirds and three-fourths of the rural population of America does not have access to a library of any sort. Many of these people journey to the county seat once a week, sometimes oftener, passing by a public library whose portals are closed to them because they happen to live beyond the corporate limits of the town. It is a rather unfortunate situation--and one that could be remedied easily by a little thoughtful co-operation between the county board and town officials."

Citrus Fruit  
Demand

An editorial in The Florida Times-Union for June 14 says: "According to a report in the offices of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, at Jacksonville, a marked increase in the export of citrus fruits to the United Kingdom was made for the season 1930-31, just closed. Exports were made during the season from New York, Jacksonville, Tampa and Los Angeles, and during the period which began last fall and closed May 31, grapefruit shipped to United Kingdom ports amounted to 611,719 boxes. The previous season had only indicated three ports sending citrus fruit across the seas; but last Fall Tampa came into the trade and furnished considerable fruit for export. The 1929-1930 season showed something over four hundred thousand boxes going to the United Kingdom, the gain of the season just passed being 49 per cent... It would seem that the taste for Florida grapefruit is being established firmly in Great Britain, and there will undoubtedly be steady increase in the demand and shipment....From the bureau figures it is found that exports of oranges for consumption in the United Kingdom more than doubled in the season just closed over the previous one, more than half a million boxes having been sent out from United States ports. California led in these exports, but it is found that Jacksonville and Tampa had a share, coming into the British market for the first time. In the previous season New York and Los Angeles were the only ports sending oranges to the United Kingdom. The Florida oranges shipped were evidently appreciated, and there is said to be a fine prospect for greatly increasing the amount exported next season. Excellent prices were obtained for the fruit, which arrived in fine condition. Canned grapefruit is another citrus product that has made an instantaneous success in United Kingdom ports, going out in quantity from Jacksonville and Tampa...."





Garden  
Products      An editorial in The Washington Post for June 23 says: "Last year's drought brought home to thousands of farmers the advantages of supplying the home table more generally by farm products. It is remarkable in how many instances this important factor in the independence and profit of farm life is neglected. This improvidence is by no means limited to sections of this country, or to the country itself. Throughout the tropics, where nature yields great return so quickly and bountifully, the same shortsightedness is seen. In Porto Rico the cane fields usually begrudge the few acres needed for gardens, notwithstanding the low price of sugar, with the result that foreign canned vegetables are imported by the shipload, as well as milk and butter and meats. It is the same in Cuba and many South American countries. Aside from tropical products that grow with little or no attention, no effort is made to provide any variety. Significant proof of this in one instance is the fact that in many of these Spanish-speaking countries peas are only known as 'petits-pois,' a name clearly indicated on the French cans that have been imported for centuries. In the drought districts of the United States, so hard hit last summer, every effort was made by the Red Cross workers, aided by the Department of Agriculture, to disseminate information, not only as to the primary advantage of gardens, but urging variety in production....The commissioner of agriculture for Arkansas reports that thousands of farm families that have not been accustomed to making good gardens and keeping vegetables for winter are now providing a store of their own products that will see them through the next winter. The low prices for staple field crops have made many farmers realize that they can well afford to devote a large proportion of time to making themselves to a greater degree independent of the village store...."

Rubber From  
Goldenrod      An editorial in The Topeka Daily Capital for June 20 says: "Announcing that he has at last successfully vulcanized synthetic rubber made from the goldenrod from his plantation in Florida, Thos. A. Edison at 84 scores another triumph of invention. He will turn the process over to the Government as a patriotic gift, meanwhile continuing at his home in Orange further experimental work, while a crew of botanists carry on the crossing of goldenrod specimens to increase the rubber content. Henry Ford has planted 1,000 acres in goldenrod in Georgia and Harvey Firestone has another plantation. The three veteran friends stand together in promoting the experiment, and are a hard combination to beat. It requires six years to develop a rubber plantation and produce rubber, but Edison claims for his process with the goldenrod that the time can be reduced to six months. At this time, with rubber one of the over-produced commodities, there is probably no demand for synthetic rubber, but for an emergency supply, as in wartime, Edison's gift to the Government may be of great future value."

Swedish Co-  
operation      Marquis W. Childs is the author of an extensive article under the title "Sweden Cuts the Cost of Living" in The New Republic for June 24. He says in part: "Of all the diverse forms that organized cooperative endeavor has taken in Europe and America in the course of its history of nearly a century, there is none more interesting--nor more successful, it may be added--than the Cooperative Union in Sweden. Cooperation on a nonprofit-making basis in the interests of the consumer has flourished for many years in the northern nations. Because of the





wide extent to which the agricultural cooperatives are organized, Finland ranks first in Europe and Denmark second in proportionate amount of cooperative marketing. But it is in Sweden, which holds third place, that cooperative retail merchandising has been carried to a point of extraordinary efficiency. In fact, so alarmed are the private merchants that they have formed a protective association to combat in every way the growth of the movement. The Cooperative Union is now the largest wholesaler in Sweden. Its 2,000 member societies own and operate more than 3,000 shops in cities and rural communities. An estimated one-fourth of the population is served by the cooperatives, with an enrollment of more than 400,000 householders. The Stockholm society alone owns and operates 271 stores. Within the past ten years the Cooperative Union has entered various manufacturing fields with marked success. The offices of the Cooperative Union in Stockholm correspond to the central organization of one of the great American chains, such as the A. and P. or Piggly-Wiggly...The member societies control the Union through a system of proportional representation. Its policies are decided and its directors elected at the annual congress of representatives in Stockholm....It is not only in merchandising that Sweden and the other Scandinavian countries have pushed cooperative endeavor to an extraordinary degree. The story of the Cooperative Union could be matched by the story of the agricultural cooperatives in Denmark, by the story of the remarkable growth during the past eight years of the cooperative housing movement in Sweden, the Rent Payers' Union. In those fields in which cooperative endeavor has not developed, the state itself has in many instances taken hold. This is notably true in Sweden, where the state electrical works, for example, generate 35 per cent of all the power produced....It is also possible that cooperation, at least as it has developed in the Scandinavian countries, is a bridge to a new economic order, an easy approach to a new type of state...."

---





### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

June 23---Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$4 to \$6; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$8.50; vealers, good and choice \$7.50 to \$8.75; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$6 to \$7.50; heavy weight hogs (250-550 lbs.) good and choice \$6.40 to \$7.40; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$7.50; slaughter pigs (100-150 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$7.45 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.50 to \$8.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40 to \$8.25.

Grains: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 67½ to 70½¢; No.2 red winter Chicago 69¢; St. Louis 77 to 78¢; Kansas City 59 to 61¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago 66½¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 57½¢; Minneapolis 49½ to 50¢; Kansas City 51 to 52¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 58½¢; Minneapolis 52 to 53¢; St. Louis 58½¢; Kansas City 54 to 55¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 27½¢; Minneapolis 24 3/8¢ to 24 7/8¢; St. Louis 27½ to 27¾¢; Kansas City 27 to 28¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes brought \$1.62½-\$2.75 per stave barrel in eastern cities; \$1.75-\$1.90 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. North Carolina Cobblers \$1.75-\$2.50 in the East; \$1.50-\$1.55 f.o.b. Elizabeth City. Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.40-\$1.55 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; 75¢-85¢ f.o.b. Fort Smith, Arkansas. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$2.75-\$3.25 per standard 45 in consuming centers; 75¢-85¢ f.o.b. Brawley. Georgia Early Rose peaches, medium sizes, \$2.50-\$3.25 per six-basket carrier in the East; \$1.25-\$1.50 f.o.b. Macon. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions \$1.25-\$2 per standard crate and 50-pound sack in city markets. California Yellow Bermudas \$1.40-\$1.90 in a few cities.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23½¢; 91 score, 23¢; 90 score, 22½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14¼ to 14¾¢; Young Americas, 14½ to 15¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 4 points to 9.07¢ per pound. On the same day last year the price stood at 12.02¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 4 points to 9.54¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 8 points to 9.50¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

---

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

---

Vol. XLI, No. 73

Section 1

June 25, 1931.

## ITALY ACCEPTS DEBT PLAN

A dispatch from Rome to-day says: "Italy's Ambassador at Washington has been instructed to inform Secretary of State Stimson that Premier Mussolini's government accepts the principle of President Hoover's moratorium plan, but reserves the privilege of filing certain 'observations' regarding its application...."

## BRITISH DOMINIONS GRANTED MORATORIUM

A London dispatch to-day states that Great Britain yesterday granted a one-year moratorium to the dominions for their war debts to the United Kingdom, thereby complying with what Chancellor of the Exchequer Snowden told the House of Commons was "the spirit as well as the letter" of President Hoover's debts proposal. The report says: "This action of the British government will cost the already heavily-taxed British budget about 11,000,000 pounds (about \$55,000,000)...."

## TARIFF RATES

The press to-day says: "Three increases and three decreases in rates were announced by the Tariff Commission yesterday as having been recommended by it and approved by the President. In four cases it was recommended there be no change and in one case no finding was made because there was no true basis of comparison between the domestic and foreign products. The biggest boost in rates was made on dried-egg products, where the duty was jumped from 18 to 27 cents a pound....Hemp cordage, which now has to pay a duty of  $3\frac{1}{4}$  cents a pound, will, as the result of the commission's findings and the proclamation of the President, pay  $4\frac{7}{8}$  cents....One of the reductions was on olive oil in containers of less than 40 pounds. The rate was cut from  $9\frac{1}{2}$  cents a pound to 8 cents on contents and containers....Hides, which had been taken from the free list and subjected to a ten per cent duty in the tariff bill, were left unmolested by the commission. It refused to make any finding regarding the duty on cheese, because there was no basis of comparison of the varieties."

## CIGARETTE PRICE INCREASE

A New York dispatch to-day states that advances of 45 cents a thousand in the wholesale prices of their popular brands of cigarettes were made yesterday by the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., and the American Tobacco Co. The increases brought the price to jobbers to \$6.85 a thousand. P. Lorillard Co. also raised the price of its popular brand 45 cents to \$6.85 a thousand, effective yesterday. Liggett & Myers Tobacco Co. also increased the wholesale price of its popular brand of cigarettes to \$6.85 a thousand.

## THE STOCK MARKET

The New York Times to-day says: "With United States Steel common selling above par for the first time since its historic fall from that eminence a month ago, the stock market again pointed sharply upward yesterday in the second heaviest trading of the year. The commodity markets, notably wheat, participated in the advance...."



# DAILY DIGEST

Published daily except on Sundays and public holidays.  
Subscription price, 10s. 6d. per annum in advance.  
Single copies, 6d. each.  
Advertisements, 10s. per line for the first week, 6s. for the second week, and 4s. for the third week and upwards.  
The price of the paper is 1d. per copy.

## Section 2

Dairy  
Industry

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for June 24 says: "Dairymen meeting in central New York last week gave the directors of their cooperative the power to seek additional markets for their products in the retail field, if necessary....The annual report of the president of the organization clearly showed the need for a move of this type at the present time. He pointed out that while the organization had handled 2,793,866,306 pounds of milk, an increase of 6 per cent, during 1931, it had received only \$80,165,000 for its product, as against \$89,000,000 the year before. In his report he showed that manufacturers with whom the cooperative did business had declined to accept milk other than for their own requirements, having taken 22 per cent less than the year before. This forced the cooperative to find markets for 246,703,722 pounds of milk, or a surplus of 400 per cent over the previous year's figure. In order to maintain any sort of stability in its markets the cooperative group was forced into the milk processing business, while the large manufacturers with whom it dealt held the best and the most profitable business, that of selling fluid milk to the consumer. It was therefore an inevitable move for the dairymen casting their eyes about for some sort of solution to their problem to seek outlets in the retail field, especially in competition with unorganized groups and jobbers whom they blame for much of the present low price situation. The possibilities of expansion for the dairy industry are not immediately apparent until it is realized that the consumption of dairy products has increased faster than has the population. This is particularly true in the New York market, where the population has increased about 28 per cent in the period 1920 to 1930, against increase in receipts of fluid milk of 43 per cent. A claim has been made that but for the decrease in buying power of the New York public in 1930 the increase in milk sales for the decade might have been 50 per cent....But the United States is still very low in the list of milk consuming nations. Whole milk average consumption here in 1929 was 59 gallons, against 84 in Finland, the largest recorded. Similarly the average yearly consumption of butter here in 1927 was 17 pounds, against New Zealand's 34 pounds, with Germany, Canada and Australia well ahead of us. Cheese consumption in 1928 in this country was at the rate of 4 pounds per capita, as compared with Switzerland's rate of 24 pounds...."

Diet and  
Health

An editorial in The Washington Post for June 24 says: "Americans are great food faddists...So the doctors agree in no less an assemblage than that of the American Medical Association. They held a special session in Philadelphia on diets and dinners, thinness and obesity....And what do the good doctors advise after all the warnings and lectures? Little more than moderation and variety. They tell us to realize that the human being can not take more than 6,000 calories a day; that the average man eats 4,000, and that probably 3,000 would be quite sufficient. Such a diet should, naturally, include all the essential food substances, and it is generally agreed that they will be provided in the vast majority of cases for any one who eats well balanced meals that include meats, fruits, cereals, vegetables, milk and eggs."





Everglades  
National  
Tropic  
Park

An editorial in The Miami Herald for June 18 says: "Governor Carlton's signature attached this week to a bill of state-wide importance authorizes a commission to work with the Federal Government toward the establishment of the proposed Everglades National Tropic park of south Florida. At the same time the measure provides for the transfer of ownership of the Cape Sable region of 325,000 acres, or more than 500 square miles of land, to national ownership. The commission to be appointed by the Governor will be authorized to acquire by purchase or gift the land within the proposed park area. It will have the power to exercise, if necessary, the right of eminent domain. Incident to the work of the commission a bill will be presented to Congress. If that bill becomes a law it will authorize the Federal Government to accept the area for the proposed park....At first one might feel that Florida's gift to the United States is but a beautiful gesture. The great area proposed for the park means but little revenue for the State coffers. Once it becomes a national possession, however, and an established park individuals of Florida may enjoy from it manifold material blessings. The good to ensue from the preservation of semitropic flora and fauna thus made possible can not be measured. Florida's gift to the Nation is more than a mere 'beau geste.'...."

Northwest  
Conditions

An editorial in Commercial West for June 20 says: "A survey conducted this week by Commercial West brings out an inspiring picture of improvement in the business situation, not only as it relates to the Northwest, but throughout the country as a whole. In the Twin Cities and Northwest there has been a sharp improvement in retail sales. The most notable and the most encouraging factor in the Northwest, however, is an improvement in collections, existing for the most part during the past five months. One of the Twin Cities' largest department stores reports a gain of 1 per cent up to May 1 over the same period last year...."

Transient  
Farmers

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for June 20 says: "One of the greatest losses in corn belt agriculture is the frequent moving about on the part of farm tenants. No agricultural system can be called truly civilized until the average tenant finds it possible to stay at least five years on a farm. As far as we know the only State which has made a careful study of farm tenant moving is Oklahoma. In southeastern Oklahoma one-half of the tenants move every year and for the State as a whole, about one-third of them move annually. The financial outlay involved in moving is estimated at \$2,000,000. This loss, however, is very small compared with the inefficient farming which results because a new man does not know the soil characteristics of the new place and does not keep enough livestock to build up soil fertility. The children of tenants who are continually on the move are generally a year or two behind in school. In the Oklahoma survey, it was discovered that the 'rolling stones' were much poorer than those who stayed on the same farm for a period of years. From a selfish farm paper standpoint we are interested in this matter because it appears that the tenants who are able to stay on one farm for a period of years are much more interested in subscribing for a farm paper. Iowa has a much more stable tenant class than Oklahoma, but even in Iowa there are at least ten thousand tenants who for one reason or another move much more frequently than they should...."





Turpentine  
Cooperation

An editorial in The Florida Times-Union for June 20 says: "Congratulations are due to all who in any way are interested in the great turpentine and rosin industry of the South on the brighter business prospects now being noted. For a long time past this important industry has been languishing, in fact, has been in the depths of depression, mainly because of lack of organization, and the lack, also, of employment of modern business methods. All this is being changed, and very rapidly, by the organization that has been effected and that now is functioning under the name of the Gum Turpentine-Rosin Marketing Association, with headquarters in Jacksonville. Only last week a very important step forward was reported by this organization, which depends for its strength on the efficiency with which it may operate, when it was reported that the very largest of distributors of turpentine gum products in the United States had joined hands with the association and thereby bringing it into position by which it will be able to handle approximately 80 per cent of the turpentine gum produced in the United States. This latest firm to 'sign up' with the Gum Turpentine-Rosin Marketing Association is that of Taylor Lowenstein & Company, of Mobile, Ala. It follows closely similar action taken recently by Columbia Naval Stores Company, of Savannah, Ga., said to be the largest distributor in the world of turpentine gum products....As the strength of the Gum Turpentine-Rosin Marketing Association...depends on a large majority of those engaged in the industry being in cooperation with the association, the importance of these latest accomplishments can be seen...."

## Section 3

Department of  
Agriculture

An editorial in The Ohio Farmer for June 20 says: "Dr. L. O. Howard, who for 33 years was Chief of the Bureau of Entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture, was selected last week to receive the 1931 Capper Award for distinguished service to American agriculture. The committee of awards headed by Dr. F. D. Farrell, president of the Kansas State College, picked this famous entomologist to receive the \$5,000 award and a gold medal because of his contributions to man's constant war against insects. It was Doctor Howard's work that resulted in the discovery that mosquitoes, house flies, and other insects can carry diseases dangerous to the human race, including malaria and yellow fever. It is fitting that a soldier in this persistent war against the hordes of insect pests that continually threaten man's dominion in the world should receive this award for distinguished service, a service no less distinguished than that of the greatest military hero. Primarily, however, the award was for distinguished service to agriculture and in the case of Doctor Howard for his day by day contributions to the knowledge of control of agricultural insect pests. It would require a detailed biography to record all the contributions made by Doctor Howard to agriculture. Taken together they form an illustrious page in the annals of scientific achievement. Senator Capper's Award has made possible public recognition of their value to agriculture and society as a whole."





# Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

## Farm Products

June 24.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$4 to \$6; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$8.25; vealers, good and choice \$7 to \$8.25; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$6 to \$7.60; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$7.35; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.15 to \$7.40; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$7.35 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.50 to \$8.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40 to \$8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 66½ to 69½¢; No.2 red winter Chicago 70¢; St. Louis 73 to 74¢; Kansas City 60 to 61¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City 60¢; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 50 to 50½¢; Kansas City 52 to 53¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 58½¢; Minneapolis 52½ to 53½¢; St. Louis 39¢; Kansas City 55 to 56¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 27½ to 28¼¢; Minneapolis 24½ to 25¢; Kansas City 27 to 28¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$2-\$2.75 per stave barrel in the East; mostly \$1.75 f.o.b. Eastern Shore. North Carolina Cobblers \$1.75-\$2.50 in eastern cities; \$1.45-\$1.50 f.o.b. Elizabeth City. Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Alabama sacked Bliss Triumphs ranged \$1.45-\$1.60 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; 90¢-\$1 f.o.b. Fort Smith, Arkansas. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$2.75-\$3.50 per standard 45's in terminal markets; mostly Perfectos 80¢-90¢ f.o.b. Brawley. Florida and Georgia Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$385-\$550 bulk per car in New York City; 24-28 pounds \$125-\$200 f.o.b. Leesburg and Dixie Belles 24-26 pounds \$115-\$175. Texas and California Yellow Bermuda onions ranged \$1.25-\$2 per standard crate and 50 pound sacks in city markets.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets advanced 12 points to 9.19¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 12.23¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 10 points to 9.64¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 18 points to 9.68¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23½¢; 91 score, 23¢; 90 score, 22½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Single Daisies, 14½ to 14¾¢; Young Americas, 14½ to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

---

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

---

Vol. XLI, No. 74

Section 1

June 26, 1931.

## FREIGHT RATES

Railroad officials yesterday informed the Interstate Commission that the 15 per cent increase in rates which they requested would apply to all classes of freight, according to the press to-day. In a resolution filed with the commission, the roads said they proposed no exceptions as to grain and its products and stated the advances would apply to minerals, allowing for modifications concerning coal differentials, that rates on international traffic would be raised, and that the increase would apply to rail-and-water tariffs. The report says: "The resolution was adopted at a meeting of railroad officials in Chicago yesterday and was an answer to the commission's order requiring specific data on the points covered. The commission granted the roads two weeks to draft their reply, but the answer came in five days...."

## COTTON ACREAGE

The press to-day says: "The American Cotton Cooperative Association met at Washington yesterday and announced the estimate of its research department that cotton acreage would probably show a reduction of between 6 and 10 per cent. C. O. Moser, of New Orleans, elected vice president at the organization meeting, said that the lowered consumption in fertilizer in the eastern section of the cotton belt would also contribute to lowered production. This loss will be offset, he estimated, by the increase due to more normal weather conditions in the West. The association has been cooperating closely with the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Moser added, and said that much attention was being given to the supervision of one-variety cotton communities. These are aimed at production of higher grade of American cotton staple."

## IMMIGRATION

Immigration during the present fiscal year will be less than 100,000 for the first time in sixty-nine years. The total is not likely to exceed 96,000 the lowest recorded since 1862, when 91,985 immigrant aliens were admitted. More than 1,000,000 immigrants were admitted annually for six years prior to 1914. The number of departures in the last twelve months is placed by immigration officials at about 60,000. Unfavorable economic conditions and the lower cost of living in their own countries are thought responsible for the exodus. (Press, June 26.)

## GERMAN LOAN

A short-term credit of \$100,000,000 has been extended to the Reichsbank to tide it over its June 30 requirements, according to a statement issued yesterday by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, which with other Federal Reserve banks will furnish \$25,000,000. The balance will be furnished by the Bank of England, the Bank of France and the Bank for International Settlements. (Press, June 26.)

## RUMANIA FORMS GRAIN POOL

A Bucharest dispatch to-day states that a central organization embracing 130 subsidiary branches is understood to have been formed with about \$5,000,000 capital to establish grain selling agencies in England, France, Germany and Belgium. It also will satisfy home requirements.





## Section 2

British  
Land Tax

F. H. Purchas, writing on "The Proposed Land Tax" in The Estate Magazine (London) for June, says: "Because agricultural land is to be exempt from the new Land Tax that is no reason why anyone who has the good of the country at heart should stand aside and let the proposal find a place on the Statute Book without protest. Mr. Snowden had the hardihood to declare that in his opinion no one would have the temerity to oppose the imposition of the tax. It will, nevertheless, be fought line by line and clause by clause in the House of Commons, and if the members of the Upper House have any say in the matter at all--though the enactment being included in a money bill, they may not have--it will there meet its Waterloo. In any event the new tax is not to come into force for another two years, and by that time its sponsors may not be in a position to enforce its provisions. And that is perhaps, the most satisfactory saving clause. Should the measure, however, by any chance, find a place on the Statute Book, it will assuredly do so as the thin edge of the wedge for the nationalization of all land, and we may take it for granted that though only a penny in the pound on capital value is now proposed--not upon all land but upon the site value of land which has already been built upon or is ripe for development as building land--the time will come when future Chancellors of the Exchequer in search of further sources of revenue, will first clap another penny or twopence in the pound on the site value of the land already threatened; and then, as time goes on, will draw other lands now to be exempt--and in particular agricultural land--within the net..."

An editorial on this subject in The Washington Post for June 25 says: "Americans generally do not realize the primary cause of the great agitation in England as a result of the proposed land tax. It is because England has never paid any taxes on values assessed on the land itself. It is because it is difficult to foresee just what the result of this revolutionary tax may be that there is so much discussion, varying from enthusiastic support to violent opposition. Analogous taxes in England have been levied, not upon the capital, or sales value, of land, as in the United States, but upon the 'annual' or 'renting' value. These taxes are paid, not by the owner of the land, but the tenant. This explains the concern of the big landed proprietors over the penny-in-the-pound tax....Opposition from the conservative landed class is based on the fear that the new tax will cause the abandonment and subdivision of many great estates, and possibly ruin many smaller owners. Support comes from those who point to the experience of this country, and who believe the tax will open opportunity to acquire holdings through subdivision that have not been obtainable heretofore. Thus arguments as to good and bad effects are hotly contended, and the outcome must remain a matter of speculation until the practical effects of the law are seen. The owner of productive property pays income taxes on rents received, of course, but he pays no tax on the land, nor even upon an untenanted house. The land tax, it is claimed, will cause holders to improve their property or sell, thus making for development and progress. The new tax will apply to every piece of land in England, and will be assessed upon its 'site value.'..."





Corporation  
Farming

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for June 20 says: "The Wheat Farming Company, of Hays, Kansas, has asked the court for a receiver. This company operated 72,000 acres. It was held up as a model business organization. Modern equipment was used, expert bookkeepers employed, and the principles of big business applied, but dividends failed to mature and not even expense money was made. We have heard of other big farming ventures that are drifting close to the rocks of bankruptcy with stockholders crowding the rail and signaling for help, all of which seems to be evidence to prove the truth of that old foggy theory that farms are intended as a place for building homes, for producing a living and raising good American citizens. Roger Babson, noted economist and statistician, has been doing a little investigation of corporation and chain farming, and he reports as follows: 'You would suppose that the big farm would be the logical development and that large scale management would be able to do on the farm what it has done in the factory. But we have not been able to find any industrialized farm which can be called profitable, although we have examined the affairs of many. Such farms pride themselves on their bookkeeping, but when you apply to them the system of modern cost accounting which the manufacturer uses, the profits somehow disappear. The only one we found which seemed to be profitable turned out, upon examination, to have an oil well on it.'..."

Farm Land  
Demand

An editorial in The Southern Planter for June 15 says: "The strong demand now existing for farm land indicates farming is on the upgrade and that people consider land a good investment. The Federal Land Bank of Columbia, South Carolina, sold \$1,700,000 worth of farms last year, and during the first four months of this year \$781,000 worth was sold. According to a report from the bank, practically all of the sales are made to local people who know the real value of the properties. The report also stated, 'That present purchasers are proving their judgment to be correct is demonstrated by the fact that very few purchasers from the bank fail to make the grade.' We have learned from a representative of the Federal Land Bank of Baltimore that in the territory covered by it the demand for farms is considerably improved...."

Foot and  
Mouth in  
Rhodesia

The African World for June 13 says: "The parlous position of the pastoral industries of Southern Rhodesia consequent on the outbreak of foot and mouth disease was emphasized at a meeting of the Rhodesian Farmers' and Landowners' Association at Bulawayo in mail week, particularly in relation to the embargo placed upon the importation of Southern Rhodesian produce to Northern Rhodesia and the Belgian Congo. The disastrous effect of the prohibition on the dairy industry in particular was shown by figures quoted: Last year Southern Rhodesia sold butter to the value of 26,000 pounds to Northern Rhodesia and 31,000 pounds to the Congo....The following resolution was unanimously adopted: 'That the Government be asked to give the assurance that effective measures of intensive control of foot and mouth disease are being carried out, so as to give confidence to neighboring governments that no risk would be incurred by the importation of Southern Rhodesian produce from uninfected areas, as is permitted in the case of other countries where the disease has occurred.'..."





## Ford Farm

## Experiment

An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for June 20 says: "Permanent farm relief, according to Henry Ford, can best be brought about by a combination of industrial and agricultural employment. Manufacturers should build their factories in rural communities so that employees could spend part of the year in the fields and the balance in the factories. He has talked his theory for years and now is beginning to give it a try-out in Lenawee County where he recently purchased several thousand acres. He is employing more than 100 men at a minimum wage of \$5 a day, and operating on an eight-hour day basis. A fleet of tractors are rapidly getting the land into production. A plant for the manufacture of textiles, now under construction at Rawsonville, near Ypsilanti, will be operated during the winter months by the men now engaged in farming. Mr. Ford's experiment will be watched closely by both the industrial and agricultural world."

---

Section 3

## Department of

## Agriculture

An editorial in The Florida Times-Union for June 14 says:

"Housekeepers and those who buy canned goods in any extent may be surprised in the stores nowadays to find the labels of certain things, and perhaps only occasionally, indicating that the contents of the can is 'below United States standards; low quality, but not illegal.' There will probably be the inclination to pass all such goods over, and purchase only the goods that are given clearing as excellent and having passed all the tests. But it should not be inferred from reading the labels 'low quality' that Uncle Sam is allowing the sale of actually inferior goods. The Government is merely raising the standards, and finding that much of the canned products is not perfect in appearance or flavor, passes it with the mark indicating 'seconds,' or something similar....The use of canned goods has grown in the United States from a very small item to one of enormous proportions, in half a century. The processes now used in canning, the care taken in selection of products used, the strict Government inspection and the very moderate cost of all such food and preparations as are now available are all contributing causes to the popularity of canned goods. The new classification being extended will be beneficial to the public."

---





Section 4  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm  
Products

June 25,--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$4 to \$5.75; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8.25; vealers, good and choice \$6.50 to \$8; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$6 to \$7.50; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6 to \$7.20; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$7.30; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.85 to \$7.25 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.50 to \$8.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40 to \$8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $65\frac{1}{2}$  to  $68\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 60 to 70¢; Kansas City 56 to 57¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago  $58\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 50 to  $50\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City  $52\frac{1}{2}$  to  $53\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago  $58\frac{1}{2}$  to 59¢; Minneapolis  $52\frac{1}{2}$  to 53¢; Kansas City  $55\frac{1}{2}$  to 56¢; No.3 white oats Chicago  $27\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 24 to  $24\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis  $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 27 to 28¢.

Virginia Cobble potatoes brought \$1.85-\$2.75 per stave barrel in eastern cities; mostly \$1.75 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. North Carolina Cobblers \$2-\$2.50 in the East with f.o.b. sales \$1.50-\$1.60 at Elizabeth City. Alabama and Oklahoma sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.40-\$1.50 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; mostly 80¢ f.o.b. Muskogee, Oklahoma. Georgia Early Rose peaches, medium sizes, \$2.50-\$3.50 per six-basket carrier in terminal markets; \$1.75 f.o.b. Macon, Florida and Georgia Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$425-\$515 bulk per car in New York City; 24-28 pounds average \$125-\$200 f.o.b. Leesburg. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes ranged \$2.50-\$3.75 per standard 45's in city markets; mostly Perfectos 80¢-90¢ f.o.b. Brawley.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets advanced 12 points to 9.31¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 12.61¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 12 points to 9.76¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 6 points to 9.74¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 24¢; 91 score,  $23\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score,  $22\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 14¢; Single Daisies,  $14\frac{1}{4}$  to  $14\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $14\frac{1}{2}$  to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

---

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

---

Vol. XLI, No. 75

Section 1

June 27, 1931.

## WORLD COTTON PARLEY

A Paris dispatch to the press of June 26 says: "The International Cotton Congress, representing twenty-five producing and importing countries and thus all the active raw cotton markets of the world, passed a resolution June 25 addressed to the Farm Board stressing the necessity for that body to adopt and announce a definite sales program for the marketing of 3,000,000 bales of Federal stabilized cotton. The resolution urged the board to fix a specified amount to be sold each day, thus it was claimed, permitting a measure of stability to the world price...."

---

## SUGAR COUNCIL

A London dispatch June 24 says: "The first meeting of the International Sugar Council ended June 23 with the delegates hopeful that other sugar producing nations not yet in the Chadbourne scheme will be persuaded to cooperate and regulate their production....The next meeting of the council, whose members come from Cuba, Java, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Poland, Hungary and Belgium, will be held in Paris on Sept. 14."

---

## LIVING COST

The National Industrial Conference Board, reputed to be the first research organization to perfect the scientific study of the cost of living, soon will announce important changes in the method of computing the index figures, in its annual report on "Cost of Living in the United States, 1914-1930," Magnus W. Alexander, president of the board, announced yesterday, according to the press to-day. The report says: "The principal changes are the adoption of a new base, 1923 instead of 1914, for the computation of indices and the adoption of a distribution of expenditure that is believed to be characteristic of wage earners' households in the post-war period. This modernization of the index is based on the belief that the pre-war standard of living and the pre-war retail prices have lost their significance as a basis of comparison."

---

## CALIFORNIA PARKS

A San Francisco dispatch says: "The State Park Commission has announced the successful completion of negotiations for purchase of additional forest lands for the park system with receipt of a check for \$1,000,000 from John D. Rockefeller. Ten thousand acres of redwoods will be added to State parks. The campaign was sponsored over a ten-year period by the Save-the-Redwoods League, of which Dr. John C. Merriam, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, is the head...."

---

## EMPLOYMENT

Generally unchanged conditions in employment throughout the United States, with further slight recession in most of the East, were shown in reports covering the second week in June made public June 23 by Fred C. Croxton, acting chairman of the President's Emergency Committee for Employment. The reports came from district offices of the Department of Commerce in twenty-seven localities. (Press, June 24.)

---





## Section 2

## Exports

The value of American exports during the first quarter of 1931 dropped to \$710,000,000, the lowest level since 1914, it was revealed yesterday in an analytical survey made public by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. The aggregate export decline, which was 37 per cent under the corresponding quarter last year in value, was registered both in quantity and in value. Only seventeen out of a selected list of ninety-six exports were shipped abroad in larger quantities than in the first quarter of last year. Only three of these exports had a greater value this year. These were apples, prunes and oranges, which showed gains of 11.29 and 109 per cent, respectively, over last year. The items which were shipped abroad in increasing bulk, but which showed losses in total value, were grapefruit, pears, raisins, barley, rice, refined copper, copper scrap, copper rods, bauxite, wheel tractors, turpentine, paraffin wax, inedible animal oils and greases and radio receiving sets. Unmanufactured cotton, the price of which fell below that of 1914, reaching an average price of 11 cents a pound, remained the leading export commodity, 841,000,000 pounds being exported in the first quarter of this year. This cotton was valued at \$92,500,000, the quantity being only 3 per cent lower than exports in the first quarter of 1930, but losing 40 per cent of its value compared with a year ago. The value was 53 per cent below the 1926-1930 five-year average. Both Europe and Asia provided large markets for this cotton.

## Land Selection

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for June 20 says: "The agricultural situation of to-day makes up one of the most serious of all our economic problems. Not that conditions will not materially improve over temporary periods, but that, exclusive of the legislative help which may be granted in the equalization of opportunity, agriculture must reform from within and reduce its cost of production through a proper selection and utilization of lands. No attempt should be made to grow crops on land that will not give promise of reasonable yield in normal seasons. In our anxiety to expand our acreage we have brought into cultivation millions of acres that were never designed by the Creator to be disturbed by a plow. These lands produce small acre yields of low quality products, but so many are the acres thus cultivated that the sum total of product increases the total for the country beyond our consuming capacity, and in some instances, far more than the world will pay for.... We have in the Southwest vast tracts of land that would have been producing valuable crops of timber had they been given attention twenty years ago. We have other great areas of country of thin soil on which farmers and their families are struggling from year to year in a vain effort to make a living. These lands will not grow timber, but once they produced good grass, and should be given that opportunity again. If we properly utilized our lands, the question of surplus in many commodities would solve itself."

Louisiana  
Straw-  
berries

An editorial in The Miami Herald for June 19 says: "Figures just made public show that the present strawberry season in Louisiana has broken all records--broken them to smithereens. The region devoted to the luscious red fruit produced 4,721 cars this year which is 1,800 carloads more than were shipped in 1929, the previous record year. This year's tremendous crop was produced on the same acreage as was planted

12. 12. 1900

13. 12. 1900

14. 12. 1900

15. 12. 1900

16. 12. 1900

17. 12. 1900

18. 12. 1900

19. 12. 1900

20. 12. 1900

21. 12. 1900

22. 12. 1900

23. 12. 1900

24. 12. 1900

25. 12. 1900

26. 12. 1900

27. 12. 1900

28. 12. 1900

29. 12. 1900

30. 12. 1900

31. 12. 1900

32. 12. 1900

33. 12. 1900



last year which means the yield was just twice what it was in 1930. This year's crop brought \$9,000,000 to the growers, the average return per acre being \$375, though many acres did twice as well....So here is a hand across the gulf to the strawberry parishes of Louisiana. They begin when Florida quits. May they always do their work as well as they did this year. There can't be too many strawberries."

#### Metric System

An editorial in The Idaho Farmer for June 11 says: "Standard encyclopedias inform us that metric weights and measures are now obligatory in France, Germany, Austria, Belgium, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Portugal, Rumania, Spain, Switzerland, Yugoslavia, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Peru and Mexico. The Chicago Daily News Almanac for 1930 further lists, among nations that have adopted the system, Bolivia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela, Nicaragua, Honduras, Haiti, Santo Domingo (the latter but partially) and in Europe, Russia, Bulgaria, Czecho-Slovakia, Denmark, Iceland and Finland. Whitaker's Almanac (Canadian) tells us that Russia became committed to the metric system on January 1, 1927. The New York World Almanac for 1931 states that in Japan the system was adopted by an act of April, 1921, went into force in July, 1924, and is in daily use, especially in cities and government circles. Thirty-six nations, including all Europe outside the United Kingdom. A. E. Kennelly, a professor of electrical engineering at Harvard, after a study in Europe during 1926 and 1927, stated, in a book on the subject, that in continental Europe 'the metric system is now regarded as an accomplished fact,' and that 'as time goes on, the number of residuals (pre-metric measures) drops to the point where they have interest only for the antiquarian.' A few old terms, like the German pfund, have come to denote the new and metric quantities. Whatever that may imply as to what will be the future measuring system in the United States, it does imply that equipment for life...in any American coastal state should include the ability to think readily in metric terms. More than half our foreign commerce to-day is with lands not under the British flag."

#### Retail Trade

The Washington Post for June 24 says: "Business men of the United States will be able to find nothing but encouragement in the finding of the Census Bureau that domestic retail trade absorbs more than \$53,000,000,000 worth of goods per year. Never before in the history of any nation has there been such widespread distribution of the products of industry. This stupendous total of sales should help American producers and merchants appreciate the value of the domestic market. Americans are good spenders. It is astounding to note that the average family of three to five persons spent from \$1,250 to \$2,000 for retail purchases in 1929. Nor is it less notable that 1,549,000 retail stores do an average business amounting to \$32,297 per year. These figures do not include the large amounts spent for laundry, garage work and similar services. Yet they account for about two-thirds of the total national income...."





# DAILY DIGEST

---

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

---

Vol. XLI, No. 76

Section 1

June 29, 1931.

## HOOVER DEBT PLAN

The press to-day states that approval of Poland and Czechoslovakia, close allies of France, to Hoover debt suspension plan is announced at Washington. The report says, further: "Many difficulties remain to be overcome in Paris negotiations when Secretary Mellon and the heads of the French Government resume their conversations to-day...."

A Pretoria dispatch to the press of June 27 says: "The Government of South Africa June 26 accepted the Hoover plan and informed the British Government that it will gladly forego its share of the German reparation payments, whether conditional or unconditional. It also informed the British Government that it will not take advantage of the offer of the mother country to forego payments on Dominion war debts....The amount received in reparations averages about \$500,000 annually and the amount paid on war debts to Britain is \$1,687,500."

## THE PRESIDENT ASKS WHEAT PLAN

The Associated Press June 28 says: "Faced with a request by President Hoover to consider a more definite policy for disposing of stabilization of wheat, Chairman Stone of the Farm Board said June 28 no decision would be reached until a review of the domestic and foreign situation had been completed. Mr. Stone said the survey is now under way and probably would be completed by July 1.

President Hoover on Saturday suggested to the board that 'in view of the unusual conditions growing out of the depression,' the board should consider a more definite policy for disposing of the huge stocks of wheat held by the Grain Stabilization Corporation...."

## FRUIT FREIGHT RATES

Rates on apples in carloads from Virginia, West Virginia and Maryland to certain southern points were ordered reduced June 27 by the Interstate Commerce Commission, according to the press of June 28. The report says: "The commission also found that rates on peaches in carloads from Longsdorf, Pa., and points in central territory to Birmingham, Ala., and Tennessee points, and from Parrot, Ga., to Asheville, N.C., were unreasonable and ordered them reduced. Rates on fruits and vegetables, except peaches and apples from Western and Eastern trunk line and central territory and in Massachusetts to southern destinations, were found reasonable and complaints were dismissed...."

## MUSCLE SHOALS

A Montgomery, Ala., dispatch June 26 states that the Alabama Senate June 25 adopted a resolution authorizing the Governor to name a commission to consider a plan for disposing of Muscle Shoals. The resolution authorizes the commission to confer with a similar commission from Tennessee, an army engineer and a member of a national farm organization to devise a plan for disposal of Muscle Shoals.





## Section 2

## Business

## Conditions

The Federal Reserve Board, in a summary of general business and financial conditions in the United States, based upon statistics for the months of May and June, says: "Volume of industrial production showed little change between April and May, following upon increases for four consecutive months, while factory employment declined by the usual seasonal amount. The general level of wholesale prices continued to decline. Volume of industrial production, as measured by the board's seasonally adjusted index, was about the same in May as in April, 9 per cent larger than in December, and 14 per cent smaller than in May 1930. Steel output continued to decline more rapidly than is usual at this season, and consumption of cotton by domestic mills was also curtailed, while wool consumption continued to increase, contrary to the usual seasonal tendency, and shoe production, which ordinarily declines in May, showed little change; daily average output of automobiles, according to preliminary reports, was about the same as in April. During the first three weeks of June activity at steel mills declined further. In the first five months of the year taken as a whole, output of textile mills and shoe factories has been in about the same volume as in the corresponding period of last year, while output of steel, automobiles, and lumber has been about one third smaller..."

## Chinese

## Highways

An editorial in The Wall St. Journal for June 26 says: "Plans of the Central Nanking Government call for construction of 22,000 miles of national highway, says the Department of Commerce. Like the proposed postponement of payment on intergovernment war debts, this is a start towards international, industrial and agricultural relief. It is true that the start is very small in comparison with what is necessary to be done and its accomplishment will be slow, but the important thing is that a start is to be made. Great is the importance of a modernized China with its resources being developed and the people earning wages sufficient to establish the standard of living somewhat comparable to modern ideas. A population two and one-half or perhaps three times that of the United States, with a fairly good purchasing power, would set at rest the present complaint of surplus production of raw materials and manufactured goods. The potentialities of such market should more than offset the possibilities of the Russian development. Ask any man conversant with eastern conditions, what is the great need of China, and the answer is pretty sure to be 'transportation.' But little commerce can be expected in a country where much of the transportation is by porters. Imagine a farmer living as far from a principal market as do most of our farmers, sending his wheat to market by porters. A husky man might carry a bushel and a half and travel 15 or 20 miles a day. He and his family would eat the wheat up before he reached the market. In such conditions there can be no development of natural resources. But transportation is coming. During the famine of 1920-1921 the American Red Cross employed jobless men and built 850 miles of roads fit for motor travel. Out of that grew a 'Good Roads Association' which now reports considerable highway mileage. Probably none of that mileage would look good to anyone used to concrete, but motor cars and trucks can move over it...."





## Veal Consumption

An editorial in Wisconsin Agriculturist and Farmer for June 20 says: "As the dairy industry has grown in the last 25 or 30 years, the production of veal has naturally increased. Fortunately for the dairymen the demand for this product on the part of the public seems to have grown at about the same rate as production, so that a fair market for it has been maintained all along. At the present approximately five per cent of the total meat consumed per person in this country is veal. This is but a small percentage of the total, so producers of other meats are not alarmed at the slowly growing competition which this product presents. Dairymen, however, have a vital interest in the future demand for veal, which suggests that they should do everything in their power to produce a good product so that the public demand may increase rather than diminish for the number of veal calves seeking a market outlet is bound to grow as the dairy industry continues to expand as it surely will....The bulk of our veal at present comes from the dairymen and this will no doubt continue to be the case for many years to come, at the same time some veal reaches the market from the beef breeds in the West and the Southwest and from nondescript cows in the Corn Belt as well as the South. And the influx of veal from nondairy sections has been increasing in recent years...."

## Virginia Apples

An editorial in American Fruit Grower for June says: "Virginia apple growers, through the board of directors of the Virginia Horticultural Society, have sponsored a plan for advertising the apples of that State through a voluntary levy of two cents a barrel. Many elements that should operate to promote the success of such a procedure are present in the situation. The territory is compact, the graded product presents no wide variations of quality and appearance, and the growers are, to a very large extent, men capable of taking a strictly business view of a business proposition. The Virginia growers will probably find, ere the proposed plan has progressed very far, that some central authority with supervision over sales will be necessary for best results. This may be either a Virginia sales agency or a State apple pool. The necessity for a 'master' trade mark may become apparent, for profitable advertising presupposes a specific product for which a market is to be created. If directed by an advertising agency with successful merchandising experience, and supported by the Virginia growers over a term of years, it will mean wider and more receptive markets for Virginia apples."

## Wool Marketing

An editorial in The Hoosier Farmer for June 15 says: "A better wool market is up to the growers, according to the National Wool Marketing Corporation, Boston, with which is affiliated the Indiana Wool Growers Association and other State organizations for the purpose of cooperative marketing on an influential scale. Wool prices would be higher at this time if it were not for the fact that some growers are accepting the low bids made by local buyers thus giving them an opportunity to resell to the mills at a price which is below that which tariff protection should afford. Growers should realize the harm they are doing themselves by accepting low offers or offering to sell at low prices. They are needlessly undermining the market which is already far below importing parity. Officers of the National Wool Marketing Corporation believe that the entire wool market structure can





be bettered if growers will pool their clips with their State organizations for cooperative marketing which is working for better prices for farmers. The Boston corporation handled more than one-third of all the wool produced in the United States last year and expects to handle a much larger volume this season. It is our protection in wool marketing as it strives to uphold a market in keeping with tariff protection. This is being seriously hampered at this time because some growers are accepting low bids. It is a serious situation. A greater number of growers are cooperating with the Indiana Wool Growers Association this year in the marketing of their wools for this reason."

Young on  
Moratorium

An editorial in The Baltimore Sun June 26 says: "The public would have profited from a detailed exposition by Owen D. Young of the situation as to international debts and reparations. But his brief statement in public indorsement of the President's action--a course which he is understood to have long favored and to have helped bring about--has a peculiar value of its own....No stronger justification of the proposal to suspend payment of debts and reparations could be found than such an opinion from such a source. And perhaps it may be noted that one reason that democracy, with all its cumbersome ways, does seem to work in the long run is that it releases and fosters intelligence, and in emergency has a way of turning the chairman of a great electric enterprise, along with many other sorts of first-class men, into public servants whose words are heeded in political quarters."

---

### Section 3

Department of  
Agriculture

An editorial in The Farmer for June 20 says: "During the current month, thousands of keen, alert farm boys and girls are gathering together in the annual 4-H club camps. We have visited a number of these camps and have once more been thrilled with the enthusiasm of this vast army of youngsters who are preparing themselves for the duties, as well as opportunities of farm life a few years hence. Only last week more than one thousand Minnesota boys and girls held their annual club meeting at University Farm. Local and sectional meetings have likewise been held throughout the Northwest. These meetings are a cure for the pessimists who see no future for agriculture. The 4-H club work is the most significant movement that has taken place in agricultural affairs in the past quarter century. It is significant because these boys and girls believe in the advantages of life on the farm. Furthermore, they are prepared to do a far better job of farming and home-making than has been possible for those who have gone before."

---





Section 4  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm  
Products

June 26.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$4 to \$5.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8.25; vealers, good and choice \$6.50 to \$8; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$6 to \$7.50; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.85 to \$7.25; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.15 to \$7.45; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$7.40 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.50 to \$8.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40 to \$8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $69\frac{1}{2}$  to  $72\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter Chicago 68¢; St. Louis 66 to 68¢; Kansas City 53 to 55¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City  $53\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis  $52\frac{1}{2}$  to 53¢; Kansas City 53 to 54¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago  $59\frac{3}{4}$  to 61¢; Minneapolis  $54\frac{1}{2}$  to  $55\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City  $56\frac{1}{2}$  to  $57\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats Minneapolis  $24\frac{3}{4}$  to  $25\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis 29¢; Kansas City 27¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.75-\$2.85 per stave barrel in eastern city markets; \$1.80-\$1.90 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. North Carolina Cobblers \$1.75-\$2.60 in the East; \$1.50-\$1.70 f.o.b. North Carolina points. California Yellow Bermuda onions brought \$1.40-\$1.75 per standard crate and 50-pound sack in city markets. Georgia Early Rose peaches, medium sizes, \$2.75-\$3.25 per six-basket carrier in New York City and f.o.b. sales \$1.75 at Macon. California and Arizona Salmon Tint cantaloupes closed at \$2.50-\$3.75 per standard crate of 45 melons in terminal markets; \$1 f.o.b. Phoenix, and 85¢ f.o.b. Brawley.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 47 points to 9.78¢ per lb. On the same day last season the price was 12.46¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 44 points to 10.20¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 46 points to 10.20¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score,  $24\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 24¢; 90 score, 23¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 14¢; Single Daisies,  $14\frac{1}{4}$  to  $14\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $14\frac{1}{2}$  to 15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLI, No. 77

Section 1

June 30, 1931.

## HOOVER DEBT PLAN

The press to-day says: "Official announcement was made last evening that no agreement had been reached between the French and American Governments on their differences over President Hoover's proposal for a year's suspension of all intergovernmental debts, including German reparations....William R. Castle, Acting Secretary of State, making the announcement of the situation in a formal statement issued with the President's approval, said: 'It is our understanding that all governments have now agreed in principle to the President's plan except the French Government.'..."

## STONE ON

### WHEAT POLICY

Chairman Stone of the Federal Farm Board prefers an elastic policy on the disposition of stabilization wheat to meet the demands of an everchanging market, according to an Associated Press dispatch to-day.

A Chicago dispatch to-day says: "A resolution declaring that American farmers have been able to add millions of dollars to their incomes, in a year of adverse conditions, over what they might have received had there been no Federal marketing act or Federal Farm Board, was adopted last night as the opening shot in a campaign which leaders of national farm organizations have begun in support of the Farm Board. The conference was attended by officials of all national farm groups except the National Farmers Union."

## TREASURY

### DEFICIT

The press to-day states that despite a half-billion dollars in ready cash, the Treasury reached the end of the last day of the 1931 fiscal year with expenditures apparently topping collections by over \$800,000,000. The last year to close with a deficit was more than a decade ago. Yesterday's Treasury statement, issued for the close of business June 26, showed a deficit of \$868,278,858. Receipts for the year were \$3,298,833,366 and expenditures \$4,167,112,224. The net balance in the general fund was \$502,438,034.

## SPANISH CON- STITUTION

A Madrid dispatch to-day says: "A preliminary draft of a new constitution providing for universal suffrage, religious freedom and abolition of all titles of nobility was made public last night by the government commission created some time ago to prepare the document. The draft will be submitted to the cabinet, which, if it votes approval, will present it to the constituent assembly elected June 28 in a vote which gave the Conservative Republican-Socialist bloc an overwhelming majority...."

## FIRST COTTON BALE

A Corpus Christi, Tex., dispatch to-day states that the first bale of 1931 cotton grown in the United States, brought to Corpus Christi last week by W. M. Thorne, of La Sara, Willacy County, was bought at auction by the Texas Cotton Cooperative Association <sup>yes-</sup> for \$350. The bale will be sent to the American Cotton Co-operative Association at New Orleans.





## Section 2

## Apple Values

An editorial in The Journal of the American Medical Association for June 27 says: "So long as the slogan 'An apple a day keeps the doctor away' remains current, physicians will be compelled to devote at least some consideration to the fruit that attains an annual crop exceeding 100,000,000 barrels in North America. A recent writer, who has been shattering some of the familiar health superstitions, remarked that the saying is, like a great many other health hints, based on just enough truth to make the contention easy to believe but without any actual scientific foundation. Now the modern nutrition experts who are venturing to destroy some of our cherished prejudices and illusions about food belittle the content of calories in our traditional apple sauce. The apple has qualities that assist the movement of the intestine; but how shall the fruit maintain its popularity in an era when a colitis-ridden population has begun a period of warfare against undue 'roughage'? Fortunately, they can not deny to the apple the virtues that are attached to its more recently discovered content of vitamins. Apples have antiscorbutic potency, though they can not vie with some of the other edible fruits as sources of vitamin C. Apple juice must be used in liberal amounts to be effective. In the good old days we were wont to munch our apples without paying any especial attention to the skin of the fruit. The advent of bacteriology brought warnings of the dangers lurking in germs; and accordingly the apple was subjected to peeling before it was eaten. What a pity! For the scientists assert that apple peelings are antiscorbutic; and the latest reports from England not only verify this but point out that the concentration of vitamin C in the tissue of the apple increases as the skin is approached from the core and is more than six times as great in the peel as in the flesh near the core. No one has ever championed the apple core; but mere inspection of the activities of the army of apple sellers at our street corners during the past months has shown that the eating of the widely purveyed fruit seems to have exhibited an all-or-none law. Who can say what the year's intake of apple skins has accomplished in averting national scurvy?"

## British

Danish Farm  
Exchange

The Estate Magazine (London) for June says: "A scheme is in operation under which a limited number of young agriculturists from Denmark are afforded facilities to live and work on farms in this country in order to study, at first hand, the methods and practice of British agriculture, and that it is part of the scheme that an equal number of British agricultural students should have opportunities of working for a few months on selected Danish farms. The students are required to pay their own traveling expenses, and to undertake regular work on a farm for a period of from three to twelve months in return for free board and lodging, no money being paid to them for their services. The National Farmers' Union assists in the selection of farms on which the Danish students can be placed, and also helps to obtain suitable British applicants for work and study on Danish farms. In Denmark, the scheme is worked by a Bureau of Agricultural Travel under the Royal Agricultural Society of Denmark....This scheme was inaugurated in 1924, and though Danish agricultural students have taken the maximum advantage of it, few students from this country have visited Denmark. The exchange scheme affords to young British agriculturists a unique





opportunity, at a very low cost, of gaining insight into and practical experience of the farming conditions in a highly organized agricultural country, and it is hoped (says the Minister of Agriculture) that British students will avail themselves of this opportunity in larger numbers than they have done hitherto...."

**County Agents**      An editorial in Wisconsin Agriculturist and Farmer for June 20 says: "...That we have many excellent young men in the county agent service--men who understand not only the science underlying the business of farming, but also the practical management of the farm--is a well known fact. This is also evident from the fact that a large number of the men who have left county agent work have gone into farming for themselves. Records kept by the Iowa State College Extension Service show that since 1912, when county agents were first employed in that State, 225 men have left that service to become engaged in other pursuits. It is interesting to note that 35 per cent of these 225 former Iowa county agents are now engaged in active farming, 30 per cent have taken experiment station or agricultural college jobs, 11 per cent are employed by farm loan companies or farm cooperatives, 10 per cent have gone into agricultural journalism, the feed business and the hatchery business, while only 11 per cent have gone into nonagricultural pursuits and most of the latter are at work in rural communities. Three per cent went to their reward during that period. Thus a higher percentage of the men who have left the county agent service in the State mentioned during the last 18 years have taken up farming as their life work than have engaged in any other single occupation. This is pretty strong evidence that as a class county agents not only believe in their work, but also that they are practical and competent men. What the record of Wisconsin County agents may be in these respects we do not know, but it is fair to suppose that it does not differ materially from that of Iowa and other States."

**Diet and Nutrition**      Nature (London) for June 13 contains an article on "Dietary Surveys" which says in part: "To increase our knowledge of the actual food consumption of the inhabitants of Great Britain, E. P. Cathcart and A.M.T. Murray undertook an inquiry into the diet of a number of families in St. Andrews, (Scotland.) All classes, rich and poor, were included in the study, which comprised 745 persons, or one-thirteenth of the total population. The diet of each family was obtained for a period of one week by a skilled investigator and the energy value and distribution of the calories between protein, fat, and carbohydrate, as well as the amount of money spent, determined. No attempt was made to investigate the mineral or vitamin intake, the study being confined to the quantitative rather than the qualitative aspect of nutrition...The average of all the figures showed a caloric consumption of 3,119 per man per diem, obtained from 89 gm. protein, 119 gm. fat, and 411 gm. carbohydrate, the distribution of the calories between the proximate principles being 11 per cent from protein, 35 per cent from fat, and 54 per cent from carbohydrate. These figures agree with those obtained previously in Great Britain and the United States, but differ from those of the standard diets of Voit and Rubner in the smaller consumption of protein and the much greater intake of fat. This variation appears to be a national characteristic and has little relationship to income,





occupation, social standing, or season. Thus, when the families were grouped according to total weekly income, it was found that the caloric intake per man was greater the higher the income; the increased calories were obtained chiefly from fat and to a lesser extent from protein. The latter accounted for 11 per cent of the total in all groups, so that the low consumption of this dietary constituent appears to be due to choice and not necessity. It was also clear that the number of calories obtained per penny spent increased as the income of the family fell...."

Press in  
Trade Rela-  
tions

A London dispatch to the press of June 21 says: "That it is the tremendous prestige of the United States in South America which is the chief factor in their success in capturing nearly all the trade of the Latin-America countries is the ungrudging tribute paid by the British Board of Overseas Trade in a report they have just published. It states: 'Prestige is imported to all things American by the greatly increased strength of the dollar, by the United States investments and enterprise, by such things as the widespread use abroad of American constructional and industrial machinery, and still more by cabled news items, features articles, and other materials supplied in great abundance to newspapers and periodicals in Latin-America and the Far East by the United States news agencies.' The commercial consequences of this stream of news, goes on the report, could hardly be overestimated. 'But they are neither so persuasive nor so forceful as the pictorial direct appeal of American motion pictures.' A high American authority is quoted as saying 'it can be proved beyond question, that promotion pictures, bringing to other peoples an idea of the comfort and conveniences of American life, help to sell countless kinds of merchandise. The universality of the American film has started a prairie fire of enthusiasm for American specialties...."

---





### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

June 29.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$8.50; cows, good and choice \$4 to \$5.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$8.25; vealers, good and choice \$6.50 to \$8; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.75 to \$7.25; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.50 to \$7; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$7.25; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$7.25 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.25 to \$8; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.40 to \$8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $71\frac{1}{2}$  to  $74\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 64 to 66¢ (now); Kansas City 52¢ (now); No.2 hard winter Kansas City  $50\frac{1}{2}$  to 51¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 62¢; Minneapolis  $53\frac{1}{2}$  to 54¢; Kansas City 55 to 57¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 62 to 63¢; Minneapolis  $55\frac{1}{2}$  to  $56\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis  $61\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 58 to 59¢; No.3 white oats Chicago  $30\frac{1}{2}$  to 31¢; Minneapolis  $26\frac{3}{4}$  to  $27\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City  $28\frac{1}{2}$  to  $29\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.85-\$2.75 per stave barrel in eastern cities; \$1.90-\$2 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. North Carolina Cobblers \$1.75-\$2.60 in terminal markets; \$1.65-\$1.75 f.o.b. Mount Olive. Arkansas and Oklahoma sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.15-\$1.30 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; 60¢-75¢ f.o.b. Muskogee, Oklahoma. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes brought \$2-\$3 per standard crate of 45 melons in city markets; 80¢-85¢ f.o.b. Brawley. Arizona Salmon Tints \$2.25-\$2.75 in eastern cities; 80¢-85¢ f.o.b. Phoenix. Florida and Georgia Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, closed at \$325-\$500 bulk per car in Philadelphia. Texas and California Yellow Bermuda onions, U. S. No.1, ranged \$1.50-\$2 per standard crate and 50-pound sack in consuming centers. Georgia Early Rose peaches, medium sizes, \$2.50-\$3.25 per six-basket carrier in the East; \$2 f.o.b. Macon. North Carolina Early Rose \$3-\$3.25 in New York City.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score,  $24\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 24¢; 90 score,  $23\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 to 15¢; Single Daisies,  $14\frac{1}{4}$  to  $14\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $14\frac{1}{2}$  to 15¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 26 points to 9.49¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 12.43¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 29 points to 9.91¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 34 points to 9.90¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



